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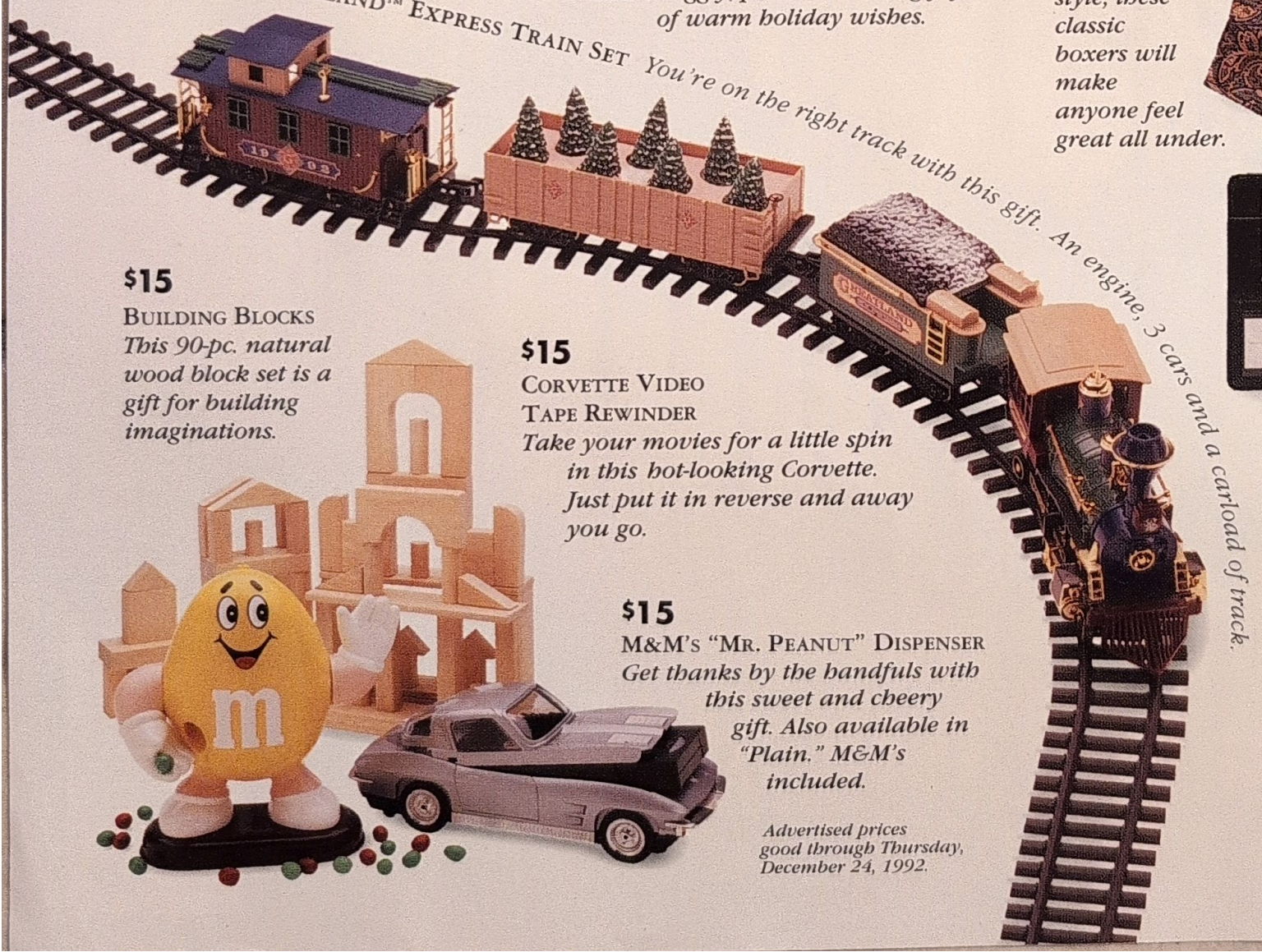

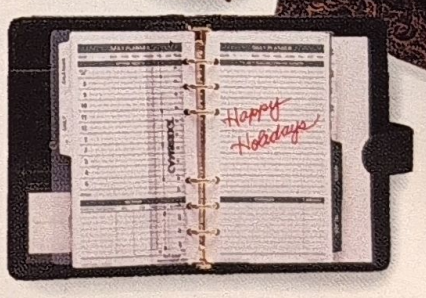

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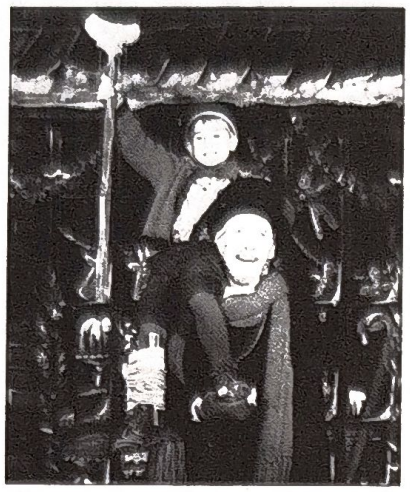

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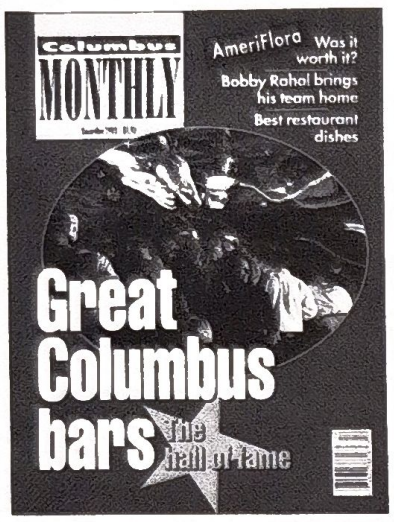

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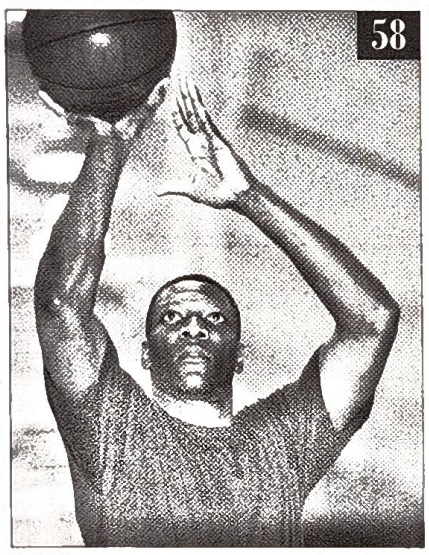

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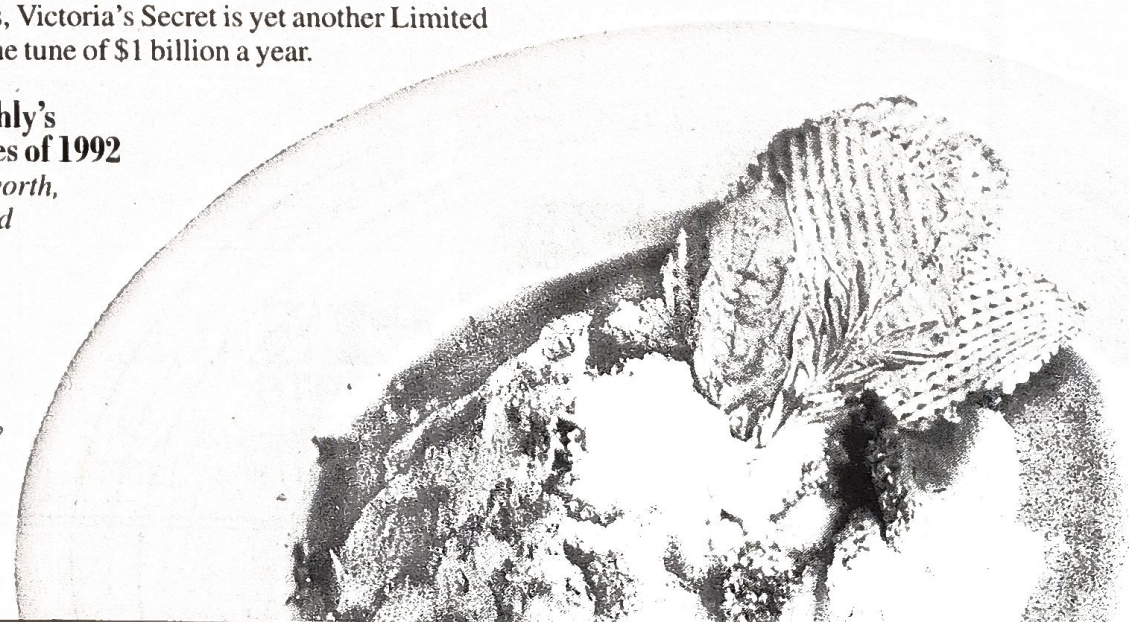
PAUL POPLIS

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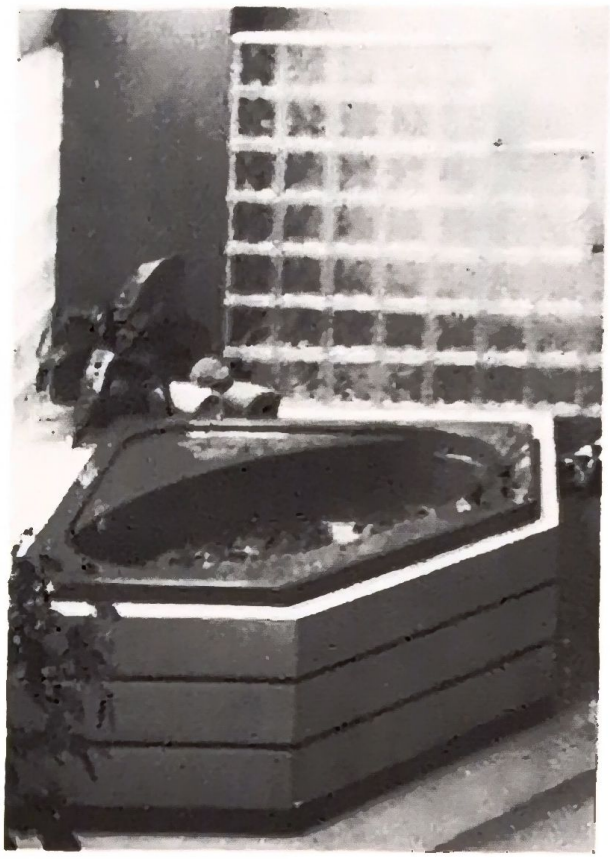

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UPFRONT

The Hall of Fame

Once again we've sent an intrepid crew forth to see what's happening on the local nightlife scene. We looked back at our last foray, two years ago, and found it woefully out of date; some of those places have vanished, some just are no longer popular. That phenomenon started us thinking—well, started staff writer John Elsasser thinking, actually—about the premise for the current issue's story: The Nightlife Hall of Fame. It's a celebration of some of those bars and clubs that have endured.

They haven't made their fame on gimmicks or fads or just sheer newness.

All of the places on the list are primarily nightspots. That is, while some of them serve food, none of them exist as adjuncts to bustling restaurants. Most of them have been in existence for a decade or so at least. And all of them have dependable clienteles and distinct personalities.

Our writers are the aforementioned John Elsasser, who also is the magazine's regular nightlife writer; Karen Simonian, a former summer intern with the magazine and now a staff writer and nightlife reporter for *The Other Paper*; Erik Battenberg, a staff writer for Suburban News Publications and a frequent free-lancer for *Columbus Monthly*. They've argued through the final listing—naturally, there were more than 10 strong contenders—split up the names and gone to spend time in each. They've written little personality profiles, stories that explain why these 10 places are institutions. See page 34.

MICHAEL BARBER

From left: John Elsasser, Erik Battenberg and Karen Simonian at the Alrosa Villa.

❦ ❦ ❦

In City Journal you'll find our last installment of "What Columbus needs." 1992 seemed like an appropriate time to look at the city; staff writer Margaret Newkirk has asked the question of a wide cross-section of people, from the coach of the Columbus Chill to the Franklin County prosecutor to a blues singer to a *Plain Dealer* reporter to an OSU fund-raising staffer. It's been fun.

❦ ❦ ❦

Our longtime—since spring, 1985—receptionist and circulation assistant Carol Crumley has left us. Carol, a Pickerington resident, has taken a job *much* closer to home, cutting down substantially on the 50-mile daily commuting mileage she's been racking up since our move to the north side.

Carol has looked after all of us carefully and cheerfully, and we'll miss her. We wish her good luck in the new job.

We and our frequent callers will have a new voice to get used to: Karla Vick is our new front-desk person, and we welcome her to the staff.

❦ ❦ ❦

Oh, and say, speaking of subscriptions. . . . Don't forget, there's still time to send one or many gift subscriptions for the holidays. Just call 888-4567.

MICHAEL BARBER

Carol Crumley

Senore Brown

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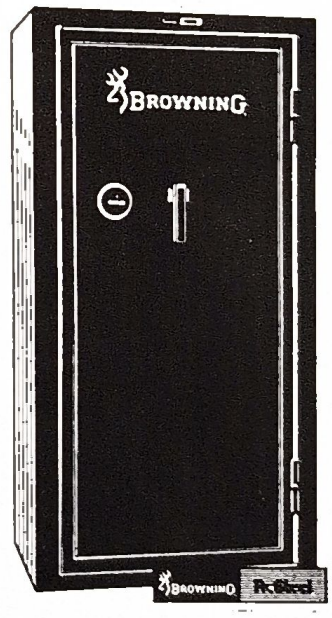

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Letters

New Albany

Bravo for your well-written lead story on New Albany! We are 13-year residents of Muirfield Village, and reading your article ["A Spectator's Guide to New Albany"—November] gave us great satisfaction and reconfirmation that we're in the right place right here in Muirfield Village.

New Albany: *Thank you* for taking the media spotlight away from the northwest area (you can *have* the media attention and be guaranteed that they will magnify any flaws you have). Good luck with all your building, dust, new residents and mass advertisement.

We just purchased our second home in Muirfield after several years of researching all the *other* developments around Columbus. Conclusion? Muirfield Village has the *best amenities package* in town! Our children *already have* 17 miles of bike paths, woods, creeks, fishing ponds, swimming pools, tennis, basketball and volleyball courts, and almost 2,000 families with friends just a bike ride away. Yes, we've had our school board problems, but we also have the best teachers and schools around (why else would there be hundreds of applicants lined up for each new available position?).

It is with a happy sigh of personal relief that we wish you luck with your many years ahead of "growing pains." In the meantime, we'll take *established* over *brand-spanking-new* any day.

Sue and Jim Harnden
Dublin

I enjoyed reading your article concerning New Albany.

I thought your readers may be interested in knowing the sponsor of the Parade of Homes, which your article did not mention, is the Building Industry Association of Central Ohio. If your readers would like any information about future Parade of Homes, they can call 891-0575.

John Kompa
Public relations coordinator,
Burkholder Flint Associates

Kudos for Cabot

I just read *Columbus Monthly's* feature on Cabot Rea in the November issue ["The man who will do anything"], and I must add my kudos to one of the finest media personalities in Columbus!

I wholeheartedly agree with the article; we deal with a number of media representatives, and Cabot really stands out from the crowd. His genuine interest in stories involving Goodwill participants and enthusiasm for his work are obvious each time we are in contact.

Last autumn, Cabot and crew produced a music video entitled "Bed by the Window," which eventually won a national broadcast award. Four gentlemen from Goodwill's Senior Additional Growth Experiences (SAGE) program acted in the video, yet Cabot never felt compelled to identify them as persons who have disabilities—an example of true integration!

The words of praise in the article are well-deserved; Cabot is a gem!

Rebecca Hamilton Wells
Director of public relations,
Goodwill Rehabilitation Center

Top doctors

I found the letter from Alfred A. DeMaria Jr., M.D. (October), to be of special interest in light of health care costs (exceeding $25,000) incurred since my diagnosis of breast cancer in November, 1991.

Dr. DeMaria, who blames "insurance and government intervention" for high health-care costs, says that insurers blame "greedy doctors" and urges relief from the "current wave of doctor bashing."

I wonder how Dr. DeMaria would feel if he took his car in for some work and got a bill from the mechanic for $4,000 for "repairs." Bewildered, he makes five attempts to find out exactly what the mechanic did for $4,000. In every instance, he fails in his efforts to learn the nature of the repairs. He is expected to pay the $4,000 without being provided any meaningful explanation of the charges.

That's how I felt after I received a bill from a radiation oncologist for $4,000 and tried—unsuccessfully—to find out what he *did* to warrant those charges. This may help Dr. DeMaria to understand perceptions of "greedy doctors" and the frustration behind "doctor bashing."

Carol A. Browne
Columbus

It was interesting to read the comments of Dr. DeMaria about health insurers' so-called greed and cost-cutting measures intended to "fatten their own profits."

I have enclosed a table listing 14 years' worth of underwriting and operating (after investment income) profits from the nation's 25 largest health insurers. Statistics audited by each state's department of insurance show health insurers' profits, after investment income, are less than those of most regulated public utilities in the nation, under 2 percent. Most private businesses trying to operate on such thin margins barely survive.

Furthermore, considering that commercial health insurance plans are responsible for only 20 percent of the nation's health care bill, they hardly can be considered primarily responsible for escalating health care costs. Government insurance plans, including Medicare, Medicaid and veterans' health plans, pay for half of America's health care costs. Self-insured plans favored by larger employers pay for about 17 percent.

Government plans rarely pay the full amount of a health provider's bill, and that's when the cost increases really begin, because government medical providers then "shift" the unpaid cost to privately insured and self-insured plans.

Who decides how much the full tab should be, and when do they know it? Until everyone knows exactly how much it costs *before the patient is treated*, no one will ever have a chance to know what to expect or how to control health costs.

Ronald E. Hunt
Vice president,
Chief operating officer,
Nationwide Health Care Corp.

The deejays

The deejays you interviewed ["The music makers"—October] seem like groovy characters, and I know Lanese, he's cool. The rave scene, however, is basically a vehicle for unnecessarily huge egos, power and acting mechanically while feeling free. Let's face it, there's no groove, no real feeling to the techno-beat.

It's ironic that the deejays, who wallow in the admittedly godlike power of controlling the emotions of the crowd, are followed by so many young people who would likely call themselves free, liberated beings.

I look forward to the local fall of this wave based on the adrenaline thrill and incessant cool of the new, to when more clubgoers will bravely enjoy themselves without synthetics and with a real interaction to each other and with music.

Brian Lucey
Columbus

Please cancel my subscription. The reason? Page 46 in October *Columbus Monthly*. I see no reason to a verbatim quote of deejay Mike Gallicchio that includes such degradeable language. I've never heard of the man and certainly have little respect for him and for John Elsasser's taste in conversation.

Sharon Carcone
Columbus

I found your article on Columbus's hottest club deejays very entertaining, to say the least. The article definitely showcased what ego-maniacs keep local clubgoers hopping. It's shameful for me, personally, to admit knowing three of the deejays featured.

While they boast about feeling Godlike, I will admit they do their part in bringing business to the clubs they are employed by. However, it's going too far to self-proclaim they are the only deejays that know how to program music. It's evident these guys don't get out much on their nights off to check out other club deejays around town. Maybe it's too humbling.

Take, for example, Rob Engel of Wall Street. He could definitely put some to shame if true talent is the issue at stake. As well, Sean Kozak of 700 High is supreme at programming music. These two guys are incredibly talented but not incredibly arrogant at all.

There are many deejays in Columbus that hold their own but don't have to boast for Godlike status. Perhaps a follow-up is necessary.

S. Rogers
Columbus

Pre-owned homes

Regarding your article in the October issue, entitled "Buying the pre-owned home: How to spot problems" [Homes], I think it is a shame that Sam Krumm finds it necessary to use "scare tactics" related to insurance coverage when talking to potenial clients rather than extolling the virtues of his employees. In my 22 years in the business, I am not aware of an independent contractor suing his client because of an injury he received while making an inspection. This is not only my experience, but that of 56 other offices we have scattered across the country, some dating back as far as 1957.

C.R. Withem
President, Home Inspection Consultants;
Director, National Academy of Building Inspection Engineers

Architects' houses

How gratifying to note that two of the three homes occupied by prominent architects [Homes: "Architects' houses"—October] enjoy stucco exteriors applied by our firm (as do all of the homes in Stonegate Village).

As for Mr. Sullivan, well, that's why there's chocolate *and* vanilla. I'm confident he'll eventually move up to stucco.

Steve Thomas
Reitter Stucco Inc.

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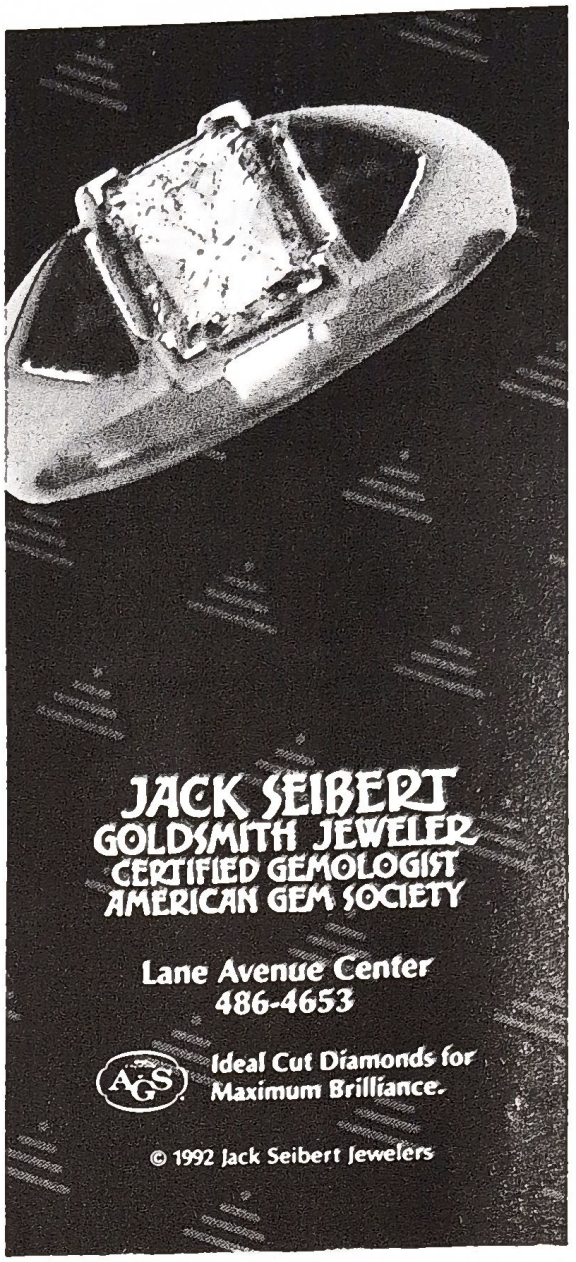


City Journal

Music to dine by, chicly

IT'S WEDNESDAY NIGHT AT Rigsby's with the Richard Lopez Trio. The soft-toned trio of Lopez on piano, Roger Hines on bass and Jim Rupp on drums glides musically through Gershwin as white-jacketed waiters glide from table to table. The clientele is Columbus-chic with business and arts leaders rubbing elbows.

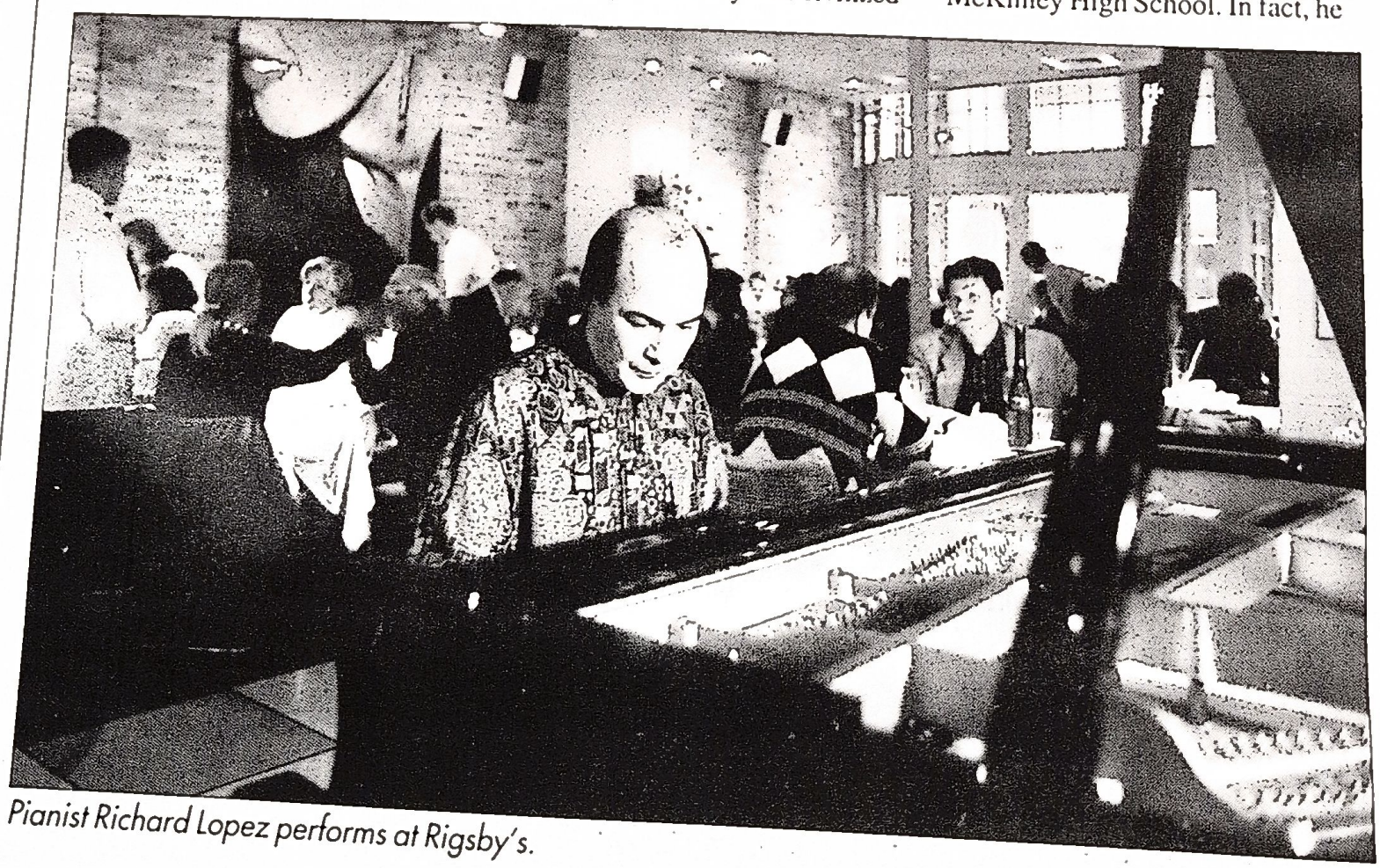
Classically trained pianist Richard Lopez has become Columbus's "society" pianist. On Friday and Saturday evenings and at Sunday brunch, Lopez plays the posh New Albany Country Club. His engagements there also have included the members-only opening event and the wedding of New Albany executive Jack Kessler's daughter. He's lined up for the club's New Year's Eve. Last summer, he performed with jazz vocalists at the New Gloria restaurant.

Lopez is not entirely happy with the role of society pianist, yet he has learned to be a realist. A classical pianist, jazz pianist, composer and music teacher, he would like to emulate the jazz-classical careers of Keith Jarrett and Wynton Marsalis. He currently teaches part-time at Otterbein and Kenyon colleges. But he recently turned down a full-time teaching position at the University of Akron because, he says, "It would have meant *choosing* classical. I'm dealing this year with trying to balance things. I got my Ph.D. to teach college, and now I'm getting rid of the security of that. It's a difficult decision."

In the meantime, he practices in a loft at PenWest, across from the old Ohio penitentiary. His civilized studio has sanded floors, an Oriental rug, a single space heater and three pianos: an antique grand, a much-used Steinway upright and a computer keyboard attached to a Macintosh.

Lopez recently spent $5,000 of his own money to produce his first CD, "Live at Rigsby's." He could afford only 500 copies. The recording ranges from Gershwin and Leonard Bernstein to a Dixieland version of the jazz classic "Cherokee" to Lopez's own arrangement of tunes from *The Wizard of Oz*.

Lopez, the son of a Honduran father and English mother, came to Columbus with his family when he was in the sixth grade. He began piano lessons at 15 at Coyle Music. He played clarinet at Linden-McKinley High School. In fact, he



Pianist Richard Lopez performs at Rigsby's.

For the record

"No more 'Oopses.'"
*—**Joel Sloan**, construction manager for the Greater Columbus Convention Center, on whether the project will open on time.*

"I would not describe myself in any way."
*-U.S. Rep. **John Kasich**.*

von't even begin to say hat. We have a way of killing people off."
*—Columbus Board of Education president **Sharlene Morgan**, on whether acting superintendent Larry xon is the top choice for the permanent position.*

▼ *Compiled by Ray Paprocki*

intended to study clarinet at Ohio State, but he didn't do particularly well at his audition. Late in audition week, he strolled into the piano auditions and played Chopin's *Polonaise in A Major*, the only piano piece he could perform. To his surprise, he was accepted into the school of music as a piano major.

His education was interrupted in 1970, when riots hit the OSU campus. Lopez was arrested and suspended for a quarter for throwing a bucket of water at a state trooper. Although he says he threw only the water, not the bucket, "I got kicked out of school anyway."

When he finished his master's degree, he sold his piano for the money to go to New York City. He lived at the YMCA and taught at the Metropolitan Music School while playing gigs at lounges, restaurants and, during the busy noontime hour, at the Manhattan Savings Bank.

After nearly a decade, he returned to OSU to resume his studies. Concert pianist Earl Wild arrived at the same time to teach. "Just the kind of teacher I'd been hoping to get in New York but hadn't had the opportunity," he says. "Studying with Earl Wild validated what I wanted to do."

So Lopez got his Ph.D. He still studies with Wild when preparing for his occasional classical concerts. In March, he'll play a recital at Otterbein.

That's Lopez the classical musician. Lopez the society pianist has been at Rigsby's for about five years, both solo and with the trio. Owner Kent Rigsby says that having Lopez's live performances is "another dynamic for the restaurant," adding, "I think people would still come for the canned music, but it's a habit, and I enjoy doing it."

A Lopez performance tends toward more jazz at Rigsby's, more classical music and show tunes at the New Albany Country Club. He admits he likes the amenities the club offers. "They have two beautiful Baldwin grands," Lopez says. "I play by the fire, in this glorious English country club setting."

His dream of a concert career is still alive, but with some reservation.

"I've played classical concerts," he says, "but I just can't wait for them to come along. Because of my late start, I told myself I'd do it by the time I was 30; now I keep putting it back."

He concludes philosophically, "To make a career out of music, you have to be willing and able to do other things."

▼ *Therese Nolan*

The loathsome sport of pigging

IT HAPPENS IN THE MIDDLE of a party, in a bar, at work, in an alley, in a dormitory room or lobby.

A woman is approached by a man. His friends surround the two. Then the man begins fondling the woman, rubbing her breasts and pubic region. The friends create a wall of bodies, preventing anyone from seeing what's going on or coming to the rescue.

They also prevent the victim from escaping.

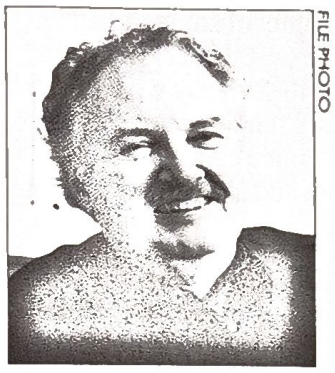
In the past two years, "pigging" has become a pastime for some on Central Ohio college campuses. That's what the guys call it. Ohio State University police call it gross sexual imposition, a felony of the fourth degree.

It happened in an Oct. 11 incident in the lobby of Smith Hall, 92 W. 11th Ave., according to a campus police report. The arrest warrant charging Lawrence Curtis Kindred, 20, with the felony count of gross sexual imposition put it this way:

"Mr. Kindred physically forced [the woman] up against a wall with his leg/knee against her pubic region while he rubbed her breasts with one of his hands and rubbed her pubic region with his second hand; Mr. Kindred is 5-11

Insider

Some who've talked with *Dispatch* publisher and AmeriFlora chairman **John F. Wolfe** since the big show closed in October say they've never seen him so depressed. It isn't just that Wolfe and his cousin, Ohio Company chairman **J.W. Wolfe**, will wind up having to spend millions of their own money to cover AmeriFlora's losses, these folks say. Equally distressing has been John F.'s gradual realization that the Disney alumni from **Management Resources**, AmeriFlora's operating contractor, would walk away with a bundle even as the show's corporate guarantors were forced to reach into their treasuries.


FILE PHOTO

Black: Back in favor

A year ago, Columbus sculptor **David Black** was just some kind of bad smell in Arizona. His $150,000 sculpture, "Sonora," erected outside Tucson's new public library, took a beating from both critics and vandals. A model was smashed before the opening ceremonies. Today, however, all is forgiven. The *Tucson Weekly* gave Black's work a "Favorite of the People" award for best public sculpture of the year.

Sign of the times: While you were at your aerobics class on Nov. 4, hundreds of your neighbors attended an investment seminar given by *Wall Street Week in Review* regular **Mary Farrell**. The Fawcett Center auditorium was filled, an overflow audience watched and listened in another room via closed-circuit TV and some 400 would-be smart investors were turned away. The eight best stocks for the '90s? We aren't telling.

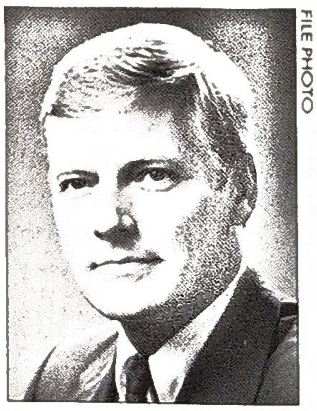
Several Columbus bands debuted in New York City recently. **New Bomb Turks**, **V3**, **Gaunt** and **Greenhorn** played at the "Space at Chase," a bar on Manhattan's Lower East Side, as part of the College Music Journal Convention. The bar was far from full, but the bands sounded particularly good.

Mike Colley may know politics, but the chairman of the Franklin County Republican Party seems determined to lose election day bets with hair stylist **June Patterson**, who works at the **Man About Town** shop at Broad and Third streets. Colley wagered a bottle of wine that George Bush would win reelection.

If you have the loose change, now's the time to get a golf membership at an upscale country club. The sluggish economy and a rash of new clubs have wiped out waiting lists at **Columbus Country Club**, **Worthington Hills**, **Brookside** and **Winding Hollow**. **Scioto Country Club**, though, remains as steady as ever: its backlog is 175 people, which translates into a 20-year wait.

Comedienne **Sandra Bernhard**, performing at Mershon Auditorium on Nov. 7, drilled **America West Airlines** for making her stop twice between L.A. and Columbus, then wondered aloud if she could make it home before the airline folded.

What's up with the name "Pfeiffer"? Last year former state senator **Rick Pfeiffer** coasted to a seat as Franklin County's first environmental judge. On Nov. 3 Rick's mother, **Marie Pfeiffer**, easily won Central Ohio's lone seat on the downsized State Board of Education, trouncing Republican incumbents **Sue Ann Norton** and **Pat Smith**. And **Beverly Pfeiffer**, no relation to Rick and Marie, whipped **Nellie Caldwell** for a seat on Common Pleas Court. Looks like a new political power name in the making.


FILE PHOTO

Pfeiffer: Family dynasty?

Update: Insider's last report on the whereabouts of former **WWCD** general manager **Gary Richards** turned out to be old news; Richards left WJMR in Fredericktown in March. He's been doing high school sports broadcasting at **WTLT** in Columbus since August. ▼

Introspection

What Columbus needs

Terry Ruskowski, head coach, the Columbus Chill:
"One thing comes to mind immediately. A nice big ice facility would be nice. One that seats 10,000 to 12,000, with intent to expand to 20,000. That would be very nice for this city. Very nice. Very, very nice."

Sandy Wood, Short North developer:
"We need a new, quaint and historic entertainment district, directly across from our new and controversial convention center. It could be called the North Market Entertainment District. It needs to be developed and it *will* be developed."

Rev. Timothy Clarke, First Church of God:
"Columbus, especially as we move into the Advent and Christmas season, needs to realize not only how much we have to offer but also the strategic place we're in, geographically. We need a greater sense of who we are, and what we have to offer not only to the Midwest but to the country as well."

▼ *Margaret Newkirk*

tall, weighing 200 pounds; [the woman] is 5-3 tall and weighs only 100 pounds."

"Mr. Kindred was assisted in his forced sexual contact with [the woman] by four other men who tightly surrounded [the woman], thereby prohibiting her escape or rescue."

"I don't know if they thought they were doing it for fun, but she didn't," says OSU deputy chief Ron Michalec. "She called police."

The quintet of students had left by the time OSU officers arrived. But, while the officers were taking the victim's statement, the students returned. Police called up to the dorm room and asked them to come down to the lobby.

"They came off the elevator and she immediately identified one of the guys" as the man who had fondled her, Michalec says. "The officer told him that he was under arrest. At that point, they [the officers] did not know about the other four's involvement, so they just told him to come with them."

The other four friends became upset, objecting to their friend's being separated from them. "They didn't know why he couldn't join them or they couldn't join him," Michalec says.

Several warnings were issued for them not to interfere. They wouldn't back off. As Michalec puts it, "They became disruptive." One by one, they were placed under arrest. One by one, they all resisted arrest. The fight kept escalating, with the officers using more and more force, then chemical Mace and, finally, issuing a 10-3 call, an officer in trouble needing help.

Columbus police, who had been monitoring what was going on, came in a hurry. Two Columbus officers actually arrested two of the men.

OSU police charged all five with felony counts, punishable by up to five years in jail and a $1,000 fine. Kindred was charged with gross sexual imposition and resisting arrest. His four friends, including a Proposition 48 OSU football recruit, were charged with complicity to gross sexual imposition for aiding him in his assault. Those charges later were dropped to permit police and prosecutors to seek direct grand jury indictments.

The other four involved are: the football player Daniel F. Colson, 19; Jelani Kahlid Johnson, 19; Wayne Lane, 24, and Julius Matthew Thomas, 19. All five are from Middletown, where Colson was named to the All-Ohio high school football team in his senior year.

OSU's Smith Hall.

Police also charged the quintet with resisting arrest.

Michalec had not heard of the practice or the term "pigging." Connie Kuns, prevention coordinator of Columbus Women Against Rape, is aware of the practice: "Last year, I heard a lot of it going on on campus; in fraternity houses, dorm rooms, just being on campus in general. I don't know if I just heard about it more or if it was going on more."

"It's a national phenomenon," says Otterbein College interim vice president for student affairs Bob Gatti. "What the students call that is pigging. There also is another phenomenon called 'sharking,' similar to pigging, but where they bite the woman on the posterior."

Gatti read about the practices in the academic publication *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. "We've been in tune to it, but we have not had any reported cases on our campus," he says. He speculates that, like rape, it is a grossly underreported crime.

Detective Pat Dorn of the Columbus Sexual Abuse squad says he had never heard of pigging, but his first reaction was, "It reminds me of the Tailhook convention." Clearly, he says, it is illegal.

"There are all sort of sexual assaults that stop just short of rape," Kuns says. "This one just has a little more force involved than most sexual harassment." And she comments: "I think that guys really do know that if they are forcing

something, then it is wrong. They may play dumb, but they know that if anything is forced on you, no matter what the level of contact, it's wrong."

Gatti echoes her sentiment. "It's great how college students package this. By calling it sharking and pigging, it's almost as if it is acceptable behavior. When we do presentations on campus on such issues as date rape, we also bring up pigging and sharking. We tell them that it is a crime and it will not be tolerated."

▼ *Gaylon Vickers*

A new career for a top city official

Jane Schoedinger at her antique shop, the Gilded Lily.

LAST MAY, JANE SCHOEDINGER made a leap from the mayor's cabinet to selling cabinets, among other items. Schoedinger, formerly Columbus's development director, opened her own retail store—the Gilded Lily—in Beechwold to fill what she says is a void in the Columbus furniture market. "We're a small furniture store specializing in European antiques, and an interior design facility," she says.

OK, but don't we know you as a Republican bigwig? Don't you miss the power of your cabinet job, where you oversaw a staff of 210 people and an annual budget of $11.7 million?

"No, not at all," she says, smiling. "Sixteen years of politics is a lot. I decided it was time for a career change. I'd always wanted to do this, and decided if I don't do it now, I may never do it. So I bit the bullet, and held my breath and did it."

Anticipating a typical, slightly musty antique store aroma, a recent visitor prepared for an allergy attack and was pleasantly surprised. The store resembles a furniture showroom, not a crowded, cluttered antique store. There is plenty of room to move around, and a variety of European antiques to see. In addition, Schoedinger carries mirrors, Oriental and needlepoint rugs, brass and crystal lamps, jewelry, floral arrangements and wreaths. She says it's a place to stop to buy a gift, as well as an armoire.

So far, she says, business at the Gilded Lily has been better than expected. "I really wanted to open something on High Street. It's really a furniture corridor from Casa Bella to McVay's and everything in the middle," she says. "We had over 1,500 people come through in the first two months."

And the customers aren't all acquaintances from her many years in public life. "I thought my contacts would help, but it hasn't," Schoedinger admits. "Most of my customers are new. Old associates stop by to see me, but most of the people who have bought here have been new people to me."

The store's prices are moderate. While we're talking, a browsing couple spot a needlepoint rug and are in awe. Schoedinger excuses herself, glides over to them, smiling and professional; she seems at home as she tells the couple about the history of the rug. As she talks with this couple and greets another shopper, it's apparent customers expect her to know a lot about the antiques she sells, and about furnishings in general.

"My background is public relations and journalism," she says, but adds that she has been interested in this field for a long time. "A lot of it [the business] is having an eye for it, and a lot of it is just what you like. So far our customers have been wildly enthusiastic. They like what they see, they like the way it's arranged. Our big furniture items come from a broker in Houston, directly from Europe. We're very picky. We only want things in good condition. We also want things that are unusual."

The design component of the Gilded Lily is spearheaded by interior designer Hugh Allen, who came here from New York. The two met when Schoedinger purchased a mirror from Allen at CiBon, where he was working after the furniture store that brought him to Columbus closed. "We just hit it off," she says. "It's a wonderful partnership." So far the store has four major design clients, she says.

Her long-term goal includes four Gilded Lily stores, geographically spread out across the city. "Our short-term goal is to get people to understand this is an alternative for furniture in general," she says. "We have European antiques, but we're also like a regular furniture store, with regular furniture."

IN

Bexley

Shiitake mushrooms

Yo-yos

Velour

AmeriFlora souvenirs

OUT

Trolls

Presley's, Jouster's, the Locker Room . . .

The word "Wexley"

Dockers

Deep-fried appetizers

25 Years Ago

In December, 1967:

➢ Three youths were arrested at a north-side home after police interrupted a glue-sniffing party.

➢ Navy recruiters at OSU were surrounded by 70 students, some demonstrating against the recruiters, others demonstrating against those demonstrators.

➢ Rep. John C. McDonald (D-Newark) was dubbed "Outhouse John, the privy politician" in a State Highway Department newsletter after McDonald questioned the department's spending $78,715 for restrooms on I-71.

➢ For the second consecutive year, Ralph Miller was high man in the Canal Winchester 100-Bushel Corn Club. Each acre of his land yielded 150.27 bushels of corn.

Sports news:

➢ Fred Taylor began his 10th season as OSU's head basketball coach with a 76-69 win over Florida State.

➢ Walnut Ridge High School's starting basketball team hit an academic high—the quintet had a scholastic average of 3.8 out of 4.0.

▼ *Jill Hawes*

Almost everything about the Gilded Lily seems to be wonderful for Schoedinger. Even though she's in business for herself, she says the hours are shorter than when she was with the city. She says she likes talking to customers and buying the items for the store. "It's like being able to shop all the time," she says.

"The hardest part is not the knowledge of the antiques, but the business side of it," she says.

"Luckily I have a wonderful accountant. In my old position I helped other small businesses get started. I knew it was hard . . . but it's overwhelming."

▼ *Kaira Sturdivant Rouda*

The background of kente

ANN WALKER SAW A DISPLAY of African print fabrics at Hancock Fabrics one day. The salesclerk there noticed that Walker was wearing some African kente cloth.

Where does it come from? the clerk wanted to know. *Tell me all about it.*

You mean you're selling kente cloth and you don't know where it comes from? asked Walker.

It just comes from headquarters, the clerk replied.

Walker got her first piece, she says, from her daughter who was attending university in Ghana in 1966. Today it is worn to the softness of a grandmother's cheek, but it still has its vivid pattern and colors, like an antique Oriental rug. Walker has been to Ghana herself many times since then, has brought back hundreds of yards of kente cloth and helped turn on Columbus friends to its beauty.

Originally, kente was woven from precious threads for Ghanaian chiefs and royals. There still are certain patterns available only to chiefs, she says. But now this colorful, hand-woven material also is a hot property for the tourist trade.

Here, if you see a strip of kente cloth draped over the shoulder of Sharlene Morgan or Bill Moss at a Columbus School Board swearing-in, you can regard it as a fashion statement and a symbol of pride in African-American heritage. Walker likens it to the wearing o' the green on St. Patrick's Day.

"Blacks are recognizing that they do have roots somewhere," says Walker, who has led many study tours of West Africa to explore some of those roots. "[Kente cloth] does give them some sense of identity."

It's also a beautiful piece of handiwork. Kente cloth is woven in long strips four or eight inches wide on a hand loom. The strips are what you see worn over the shoulder or sported as headbands or belts. Sewn together, they make shawls, dresses or other apparel. They're also cut up and used as decorative trim on clothing or made into hats or cummerbund and bow tie sets.

Walker, who sells kente cloth items at ComFest and the holiday mart at the Martin Luther King Center, says she was shocked when she first saw the strips cut in pieces for trim, as if cutting them were a sacrilege. Now she takes it for granted, as Ghanaians do. Really, as she demonstrates with an array of merchandise, anything goes.

Because there's a growing demand for the colorful and distinctive kente patterns, they often are borrowed nowadays and made into printed fabric by Senegalese or by Asians who set up mills in Africa. Some big merchandisers in the U.S. have started to import them and copy them. Hence, their appearance at Hancock Fabrics and some JCPenney stores.

Ironically, wearing a kente cloth strip over the shoulder has been interpreted in some quarters as akin to a black power salute. A judge in Washington, D.C., banned a black lawyer from his courtroom because the lawyer wore a kente cloth stole.

School board member Sharlene Morgan, for one, takes the fashion somewhat more casually. "They're a strong statement of heritage and fashion," she says. "I would think persons that wear them would understand the statement they're making."

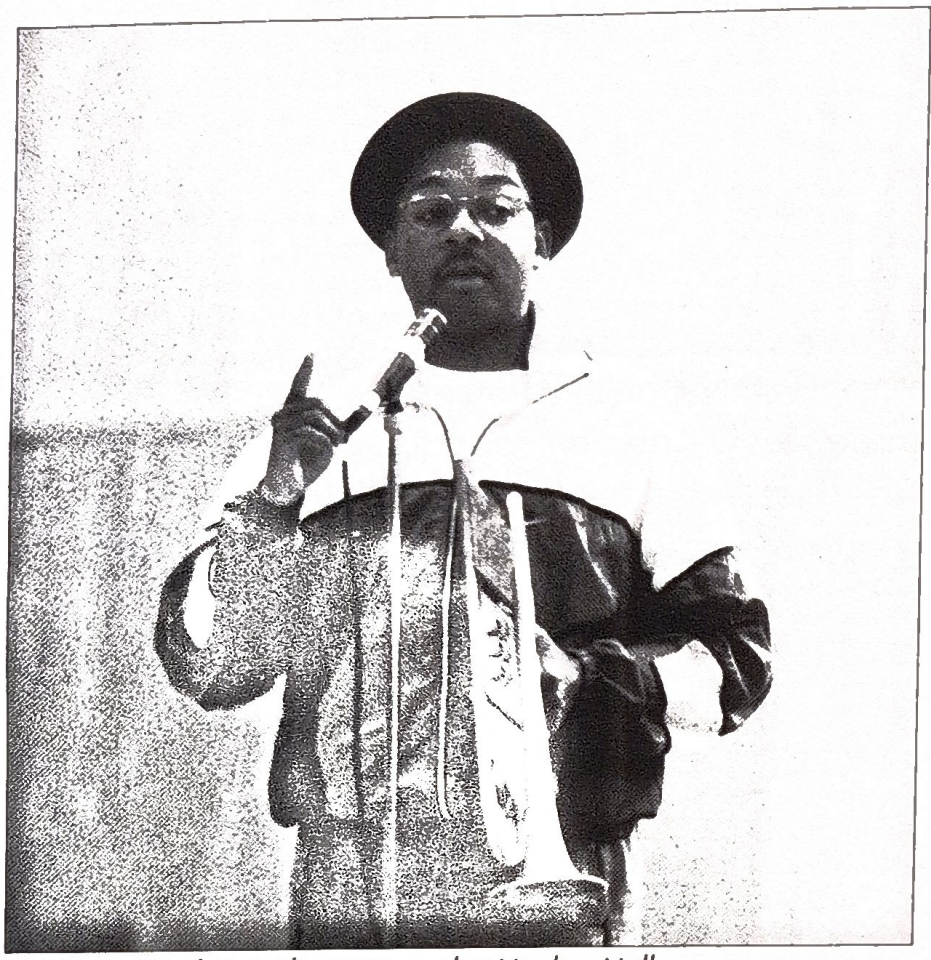
On the other hand, she adds, "It's just like me wearing a European-made scarf. If a pretty scarf is a pretty scarf, then I'd buy one."

▼ *Emily Foster*

MICHAEL BARBER

Bill Moss and his wife, Ruth, wore kente cloths to the school board swearing-in ceremony in January.

Wynton Marsalis finds Hughes Hall



MIKE MERRIMAN/RYCUS ASSOC.

Wynton Marsalis speaks to a crowd at Hughes Hall.

THE CONTRACT ALREADY had been signed, the details taken care of. Wynton Marsalis, trumpeter nonpareil, would lead a special workshop Oct. 2 at the Ohio State University's school of music prior to a performance in the Mershon Auditorium.

It would be a special treat. Although only 31, Marsalis is considered a jazz giant. His jazz and classical recordings have won seven Grammy awards. He also is a noted jazz educator, speaking to music students frequently (and eloquently) about the history and importance of this American art form.

This fall, he was touring as part of the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra, an all-star band of 16 musicians doing 28 cities in 37 nights playing the music of Duke Ellington. There wasn't much time for Marsalis to give talks on this tour. Except for a couple. And one would be at Ohio State.

Charles Helm, performing arts director for the Wexner Center, knew the director of jazz at the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts. He also recommended a booking agent for the Jazz Orchestra to use during its tour. Doors opened, and Marsalis agreed to talk. With the assistance of OSU music and black studies professor Ted McDaniel, Helm arranged a workshop at 4 pm on that Oct. 2 Friday. It would be in the auditorium of Hughes Hall for Marsalis and about 150 or so music students and local musicians. Everything was set.

But things happen.

First the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra was late in leaving Detroit, where it played the preceding night. It was uncertain when he would arrive. Then the phone system at Ohio State crashed; Helm was in a communication limbo. He was supposed to pick up Marsalis at his hotel, the Holiday Inn on Lane Avenue. He couldn't call the hotel; Marsalis couldn't contact him. When the bus finally made it into town, there was no Marsalis; he was driving separately. And Marsalis didn't know exactly where the talk was being held, except that it was near the Wexner Center.

Four o'clock came. No Marsalis. Announcements were made to the students and musicians—He'll be here soon. McDaniel went in front of Hughes Hall, which is behind the Wexner Center on College Road, and—*There he is!*—spotted Marsalis driving past. He flagged him down. About 25 minutes past 4 pm, Marsalis, in a predominantly purple nylon warmup suit, dragged himself into the auditorium, carrying a trumpet. He'd had two hours of sleep the previous night, he said, and was feeling it. But he was there.

"It was a frantic hour for me," said Helm later. But it was another important step in the Wexner Center's goal of bringing guest artists and audiences closer through workshops and such. And although tired, Marsalis didn't disappoint. For more than 90 minutes he spoke, took questions and signed autographs. And he played, albeit tantalizingly briefly, to illustrate points, both on the trumpet and the piano. He dropped small pearls of insight: "Jazz is about people, about life"; "Jazz is like what American society is supposed to be like . . . like a gumbo. . . . Improvisation is an American quality. Democracy is improvisation. It is freedom, but also the responsibility to other group members"; "The more participation, the more democratic the music can be."

And then Marsalis, less than two hours after signing his last autograph at Hughes Hall, played a sizzling set with the other 15 musicians during the Mershon gig, which received three standing ovations. There were more autographs afterward, and then Marsalis left for his hotel room—saying he had to finish composing two movements of a score for the New York City Ballet.

Helm, after a sigh of relief, was pleased with Marsalis's generosity and impact. "It was really terrific for the students to see an artist that centered on who he is and what he does."

▼ *Ray Paprocki*

DIVERSIONS

Ho, ho, ho—will Santa be kind to Hollywood studios this holiday season? Honestly, we couldn't care less, but several December releases look like hits.

A Few Good Men—Word is the Columbia brass are big on Rob Reiner's film version of the Broadway play. Tom Cruise and Jack Nicholson lead a name cast.

Lorenzo's Oil—Nick Nolte and Susan Sarandon in the true weeper of a boy fighting a rare disease. Co-writer-director George Miller is a doctor in his spare time, and should be sensitive to the subject matter.

Toys—Director Barry Levinson is reteamed with his *Good Morning, Vietnam* star Robin Williams in this comedy about a man who tries to save his father's toy factory. Even the previews look funny.

And there's the stuff that doesn't look so good.

The Distinguished Gentleman—Eddie Murphy's time may have come and gone. In this comedy, he plays a small-time con man who gets elected to Congress. Would anyone notice the difference?

Chaplin—Robert Downey Jr.'s body stars in the life story of the silent one who gave Hitler inspiration for his mustache. The movie, directed by Sir Richard Attenborough, spans 80 years in Chaplin's life.

▼ *John Elsasser*

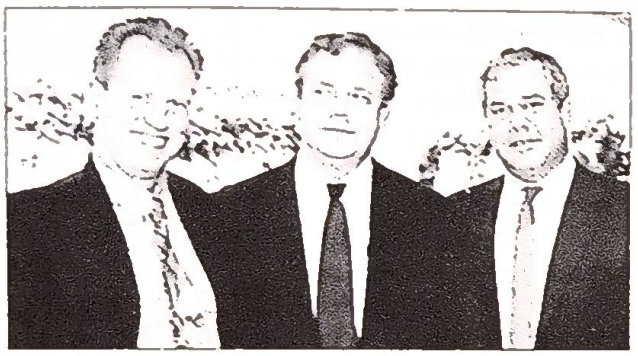
parties

▼ By Kaira Sturdivant Rouda
▼ Photography by Jeffrey A. Rycus

Browsing for Buckeye

Karen Yassenoff, left, and Alice Davis, co-chairs of the Potpourri Preview Party.

POTPOURRI, WHICH IS THE new name for Buckeye Boutique, is a major fund-raiser for the Buckeye Boys Ranch organized by its service board. At the Potpourri Preview Party Oct. 22, guests were able to browse at 35 unique shops at the Galbreath Pavilion. Shops from all over the country featured clothing, jewelry, books, holiday decorations, a wide variety of food and more. After the $75-per-person Preview Party, Potpourri was open to the public. Money raised is used to maintain the buildings at Buckeye Boys Ranch; the Ranch helps severely emotionally disturbed adolescents develop skills to become productive adults.



From left: Dr. Dallas Hessler, Dr. Stephen Smith and Bill Wolfe.

Twink Smith (left), Carole Schuller and Dr. James Mechenbier.

Buckeye Boys Ranch board member David Patterson and Rebecca Patterson at the Little Bookworm shop.

Dick and Peg Greathouse with Bernie McMahon, left.

Potpourri general chairman Paula Wiles, left, with Embellishments store owner Elsa Johnson.

John Ketchum, Jean Shaw and Marie Ketchum.

Columbus calendar

JILL HAWES
KAREN HEIL

DECEMBER

COURTESY COSI

Don't miss: Playing with toys and learning about science go hand in hand at the **Toys & Games** exhibit at **COSI** (left), running through Jan. 3. Colorful and stimulating displays include "Roller Coasters," where kids learn about potential energy turning kinetic by toying with ramps so a car will loop-the-loop, and "Under the Skin," where puzzle pieces illustrate what lies below the surface of a car, tree or person. See Exhibitions.

BalletMet will commemorate the centennial of Tchaikovsky's ***The Nutcracker*** (right) with an all-new production of the holiday classic. The production will be set in Imperial Russia and will feature new choreography and lavish Russian-style costumes. The 100th Anniversary Gala performance will be Dec. 18, the actual date of the centennial. See Dance for other performance dates.

JUDANNA LYNN

Handblown glass, wooden toys and a plenitude of other contemporary crafts will be exhibited at the annual **Columbus Winterfair** (below). 350 craftsmen from across the country will display and sell their creations Dec. 3 through 6 at the Bricker Building on the State Fairgrounds. See Miscellaneous.

DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

COURTESY OHIO DESIGNER CRAFTSMEN

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OF LANCASTER
a unique experience

WHAT A GOOD IDEA!

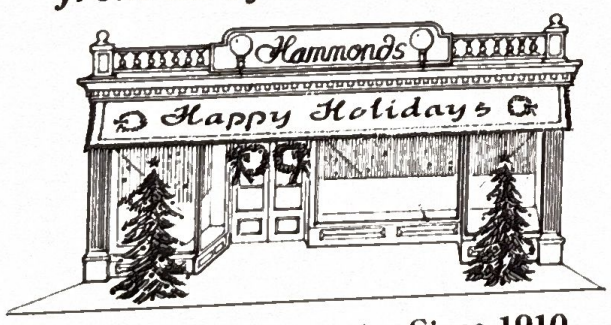
Christmas gift suggestions
for perplexed shoppers

Tie, sweater, bathrobe, wait a minute, that's someone else's list . . . .

HERE IT IS, from Hammonds:

The best-looking, most beautifully equipped willow picnic basket that we've seen in years, worthy of packing in the boot of your Dusenberg . . . . . *a great black British umbrella from Swaine, Adeney and Briggs of London* . . . . .everyman (and woman's) heart's desire: a Barbour oiled cotton weatherproof jacket, with maybe a hat to match, to cope with the rest of winter and spring in Ohio . . . . . *sweaters like you've never seen and won't see elsewhere, absolutely beautiful in color and design* . . . . . boxed badger bristle brush and bowl in shiny silver shaving set . . . *well, you have to see it!*

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
from all of us at Hammonds



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Information for Columbus Calendar.

Events must be of general interest and open to the public. There is no charge for listing in Columbus Calendar; items will be included as space permits. We must receive written information seven weeks prior to the first of the month in which the event takes place. We do not accept submissions via fax.

February deadline is Thursday, Dec. 10.

Please follow the format of the appropriate category, including a phone number the public can use for more information. Send to:

Columbus Calendar
Columbus Monthly
5255 Sinclair Rd.
P.O. Box 29913
Columbus, Ohio 43229-7513

Please confirm.

We suggest readers confirm information contained in Columbus Calendar, since the material we include is received seven weeks prior to publication. Please call the telephone numbers given in Columbus Calendar for confirmation, ticket and/or general information.

theatre

Broadway Series—Palace Theatre, 34 W Broad St, 431-3600. *The Will Rogers Follies: A Life in Revue*, starring Keith Carradine, 12/1 thru 4 at 8 pm; 12/5 at 2 & 8 pm; 12/6 at 2 & 7 pm. Tickets $24.50-$40.

CAPA—Ohio Theatre, 39 E State St, 469-0939. *A Christmas Carol*, based on Charles Dickens's story, with period music, presented by the Nebraska Theatre Caravan, 11/27 at 7:30 pm; 11/28 & 29 at 2 & 7:30 pm. Tickets $10.50-$13.50.

Center Stage Theatre—Martin Luther King Center, 867 Mt Vernon Ave, 252-5464. *Black Nativity*, musical by Jeannine Sessoms, 12/3 thru 5, 10 thru 12 & 17 thru 19 at 8 pm. Tickets $15-$20.

Contemporary American Theatre Company—512 N Park St, 461-0010. *A Christmas Memory* and *The Thanksgiving Visitor*, autobiographical plays by Truman Capote, 11/27, 12/9 & 10 at 7:30 pm; 11/28, 12/2 thru 5, 11, 12, 16 thru 19, 21 & 22 at 8 pm; 11/29 at 2 pm; 12/6, 13 & 20 at 2 & 7 pm. Tickets $10-$18 (half-price 11/27); student & senior citizen discount available.

Goldston Mime Foundation—Davis Disovery Center, Shedd Theatre, 549 Franklin Ave, 461-1166. *Mime artist Robert Shields*, 12/4 & 5 at 8 pm. Tickets $15, students & children $10.

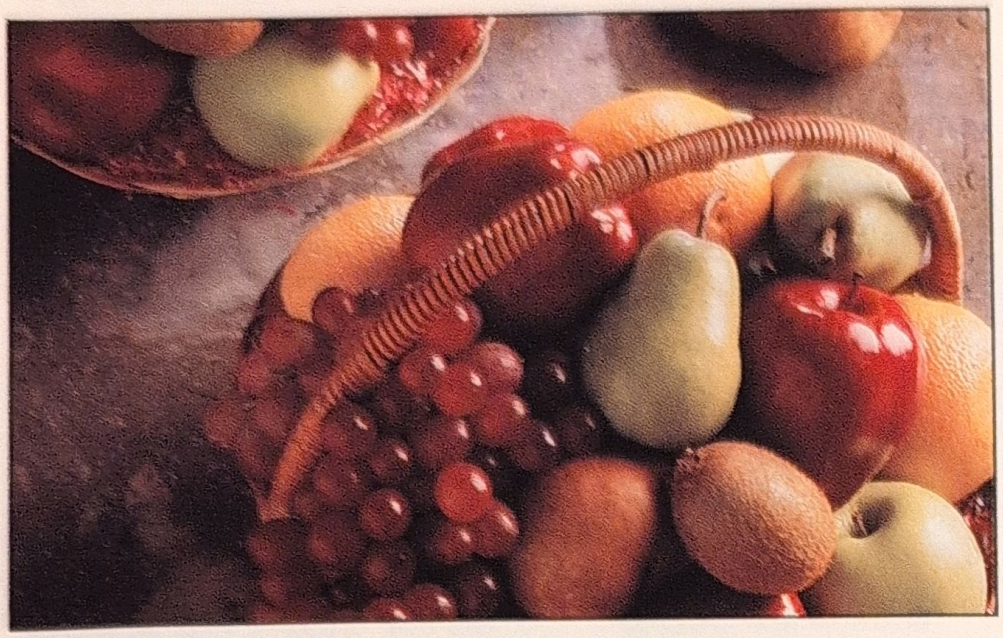
Little Theatre Off Broadway—3981 Broadway, Grove City, 875-3919. *Is There Life After High School?*, musical revue, music and lyrics by Craig Carnelia, directed by Roger Whitaker, 11/27, 28 & 12/3 thru 5 at 8 pm; 11/29 at 2 pm. Tickets $8, students & senior citizens $6.

Players Theatre Columbus—Studio One Theatre, Riffe Center, State & High sts, 644-8425. *Balancing Act*, by Dan Goggin; about a youth, played by five different people, trying to make it in the Big Apple, 12/2 thru 4 at 7:30 pm; 12/5, 12 & 19 at 4 & 8:30 pm; 12/6 & 13 at 2 & 7 pm; 12/9 thru 11 & 16 thru 18 at 8 pm; 12/20 at 2 pm. Tickets $15-$30; student & senior citizen discount available.

concerts

Monday, Nov 30 & Dec 1

Westerville Song Spinners—chorus presenting *Christmas Is*, 8 pm, Westerville South High School Aud, 303 S Otterbein Ave, 882-9185. Donations accepted.



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Tuesday, Dec 1

OSU Women's Glee Club and University Chorus—8 pm, Weigel Aud, Wexner Center, N High St at 15th Ave, OSU, 292-2300. Free.

Wednesday, Dec 2

The Sun Kings—five-piece steel drum band, after-work concert with refreshments available, 5:30-7:30 pm, Derby Court, Columbus Museum of Art, 480 E Broad St, 221-6801. Adm $5; members, students & senior citizens $3.

OSU University Symphony Orchestra—Marshall Haddock, conductor, 8 pm, Weigel Aud, Wexner Center, N High St at 15th Ave, OSU, 292-2300. Free.

Wednesday, Dec 2 thru 6

Maynard Ferguson, jazz musician—presented by the Jazz Arts Group, 12/2 thru 5 at 8 pm, 12/6 at 7:30 pm, Battelle Memorial Aud, 505 King Ave, 231-7836. Tickets $18.75.

Friday, Dec 4

Denison Jazz Ensemble—Rick Brunetto, director, presenting Big Band music, 8 pm, Burke Recital Hall, Denison University, Granville, 1-587-6220. Free.

Newark Campus University Chorus—8 pm, Founders Aud, OSU, Newark branch, 1-366-3321. Free.

Robin & Linda Williams, country/folk duo—presented by Six String Concerts, 8 pm, Third Avenue Performance Space, 1066 N High St, 294-7664. Tickets $14, advance $12.

Friday, Dec 4 & 5

Columbus Symphony Orchestra—Alessandro Siciliani, conductor; Ani Davafian, violinist, presenting Schumann's *"Manfred" Overture*, Shubert's *Symphony No 8 "Unfinished"*, Beethoven's *Violin Concerto*, 8 pm, Ohio Theatre, 39 E State St, 224-3291. Tickets $9-$36.

Troubadours—musical concert and visit from Santa Claus, 10:30-11 am, Grandview Heights Public Library, 1685 W First Ave, 486-2951. Free.

Sunday, Dec 6

All Saints Lutheran—Jan Arthur, conductor, 52-voice choir and 28-piece orchestra, presenting Puccini's *Messe di Gloria*, 4 pm, All Saints Lutheran , 6770 N High St, Worthington, 885-0112. Donations accepted.

Capital Brass—7:30 pm, Huntington Recital Hall, Capital University, 2199 E Main St, 236-6411. Free.

Central Ohio Symphony Orchestra—Christopher Weait, music director, presenting holiday concert, 2 pm (short version for young audiences) & 4:30 pm, Gray Chapel, Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, 1-368-3700. Tickets $6, senior citizens $5, students $2.

highlight

Check out Keith Carradine, who got rave reviews for his Broadway performance, in the Tony Award-winning musical, ***The Will Rogers Follies: A Life in Revue***, a Broadway Series event at the Palace Theatre Dec. 1 through 6. See Theatre.

Columbus Symphony Orchestra and Chorus—Ronald Jenkins, conductor, presenting Handel's *Messiah*, 7:30 pm, Ohio Theatre, 39 E State St, 224-3291. Tickets $12.

Denison Concert Choir and Orchestra—William Osborne, conductor, 7:30 pm, Swasey Chapel, Denison University, Granville, 1-587-6220. Free.

Oscar Brand, folk musician—Short North Folk Sampler Series, 7:30 pm, Union Station Cafe, 630 N High St, 291-5854. Tickets $12, advance $10.

Monday, Dec 7

Christmas Concert—7 pm, Columbus Convention Center, Battelle Hall, 400 N High St, 221-6700. Tickets $13 & $15.

Tuesday, Dec 8

Shape Note Singers—presenting early American harmony music, 7-8 pm, Grandview Heights Public Library, 1685 W First Ave, 486-2951. Free.

Vocal Repertory Ensemble—11 am, Rosse Hall, Kenyon College, Gambier, 461-6102. Free.

Wednesday, Dec 9

Denison Student Chamber Music—8 pm, Burke Recital Hall, Denison University, Granville, 1-587-6220. Free.

Denison Student Recital—4 pm, Burke Recital Hall, Denison University, Granville, 1-587-6220. Free.

Lynn Roseberry, soprano—7:30 pm, Huntington Recital Hall, Capital University, 2199 E Main St, 236-6411. Free.

Friday, Dec 11

The Chieftains—Irish band presenting *Christmas in Ireland*, presented by CAPA, 8 pm, Palace Theatre, 34 W Broad St, 469-0939. Tickets $19.50.

Ft Hayes Vocal Music Dept—winter concert, 7:30 pm, Ft Hayes Performing Arts Theater, 546 Jack Gibbs Blvd, 365-6681, ext 243 for ticket information.

Friday, Dec 11 thru 20

Christmas Just For You—Living Christmas Trees, 150-voice choir, 50-piece orchestra and costumed cast, 12/11 thru 13 & 18 thru 20 at 8 pm, Grace Brethren Worship Center, 8225 Worthington-Galena Rd, 431-8223. Tickets $5-$8.

Saturday, Dec 12

Cantari Singers—8 pm, Worthington United Methodist Church, 600 High St, 847-5621. Tickets $17, students $12.

Heritage Brass Quintet—presenting *Christmas in Brass*, Gray Chapel, Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, 1-368-3190. Tickets $10, students & senior citizens $8.

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December 5-19

Opening Receptions, Artist Present:

Saturday, December 5, 1-5 pm

Sunday, December 6, 1-4 pm

Hammonds is pleased to be the exclusive gallery to introduce John Ruthven's new print "Kingfishers with Waterlilies". This signed and numbered edition will not be available elsewhere until Spring 1993

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Kenyon Chamber Singers—and Community Choir, 8 pm, Rosse Hall, Kenyon College, Gambier, 461-6102. Free.

Sunday, Dec 13

Gallery Choir of First Church—Kevin Jones, organist, presenting Christmas music, 5 pm, First Congregational Church, 444 E Broad St, 228-1741. Free.

Oxford String Quartet—2 pm, Short North Tavern, 674 N High St, 291-5854. Tickets $6 & $8.

Paul Strousse, pianist—5 pm, Graves Recital Hall, 5798 Karl Rd, 847-4322. Free.

Mel Torme, jazz-pop vocalist—with full orchestra, performing Christmas songs and holiday music, presented by CAPA, 7:30 pm, Palace Theatre, 34 W Broad St, 469-0939. Tickets $19-$25.

Tuesday, Dec 15

Ft Hayes Instrumental Music Dept—presenting a winter jazz concert, 7:30 pm, Ft Hayes Performing Arts Theater, 546 Jack Gibbs Blvd, 365-6681, ext 243 for ticket information.

Thursday, Dec 17

Ft Hayes Instrumental Music Dept—presenting a winter classical concert, 7:30 pm, Ft Hayes Performing Arts Theater, 546 Jack Gibbs Blvd, 365-6681, ext 243 for ticket information.

Saturday, Dec 19

Kathleen Battle, soprano—operatic and seasonal music, CAPA Signature Series, 8 pm, Palace Theatre, 34 W Broad St, 469-0939. Tickets $19-$38.

Sunday, Dec 20

Worthington United Methodist Church Chancel Choir—Maurice Casey, conductor; William Haller, composer and organist, presenting *Christmas Pageant*, 9:30 & 11 am, Worthington United Methodist Church, 600 High St, Worthington, 885-5365. Donations accepted.

Thursday, Dec 31

William Haller, organist—presenting *Remembering the Holidays*, 7:30 pm, Worthington United Church, 600 High St, Worthington, 885-5365. Donations accepted.

exhibitions

Acme Art Company—737 N High St, 299-4003. *Holidaze Extravaganza*, various artists' show and sale, 12/1 thru 31. Wed-Sat 1-7 pm & by appointment.

Blue Sky Gallery—1120 Jaeger St, 444-7115. *Fifth Annual Christmas Show*, featuring glass art by Christopher Tolbert, jewelry and soft pastel drawings by Daina Dickens and watercolors by Maija Berzins, thru 12/31. Tue-Sat noon-5 pm; closed Sun-Mon.

Bunte Gallery—Franklin University, 303 S Grant Ave, 341-6408. *90 Years at Franklin University: An Historical Exhibition*, photographs and other artifacts collected over the past 90 years at Franklin University, thru 12/18. Mon-Thu 7:30 am-10 pm, Fri 8 am-5 pm, Sat 8 am-3 pm, Sun 1-6 pm.

Center of Science and Industry—COSI, 280 E Broad St, 228-2674. *Toys & Games: Exploring Science in Toyland*, hands-on devices and models, videos and more, thru 1/3/93. Mon-Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun noon-5:30 pm. Adm $5, students and senior citizens $3, children under 2 free, families $15.

Cleveland Museum of Art—11150 East Blvd, Cleveland, (216) 421-7340. *Richard Long Photographs*, 20 works from rural and remote areas, thru 12/6; *Victorian Landscape Watercolors*, 120 works from 1840-1900, thru 1/3/93; *Asian Autumn: Later Korean Art*, 18th- and 19th-century Korean art loaned by Robert Moore, thru 1/3/93. Museum open Tue & Thu-Fri 10 am-5:45 pm, Wed 10 am-9:45 pm, Sat 9 am-4:45 pm, Sun 1-5:45 pm; closed Mon.

Columbus Cultural Arts Center—139 W Main St, 645-7047. *Mixed media works by Louis Grunewald* and *artworks by Alisa Mosley*, 12/1 thru 30; *prints by Peter Van Ael* and *paintings by Jessica Gondek*, thru 12/27. Mon-Thu 8 am-5 pm & 7-9:30 pm, Fri 8 am-5 pm, Sat-Sun 1-5 pm.

Columbus Museum of Art—480 E Broad St, 221-6801. *Masterpieces of Impressionism and European Modernism: The Sirak Collection*, 78 works by Monet,

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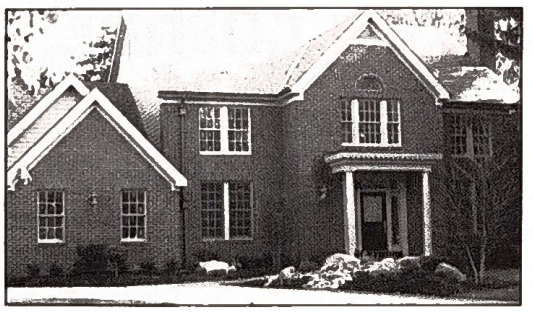

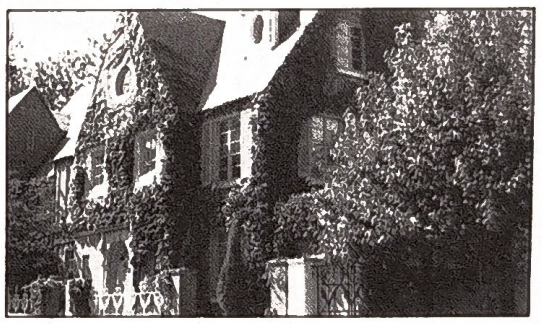

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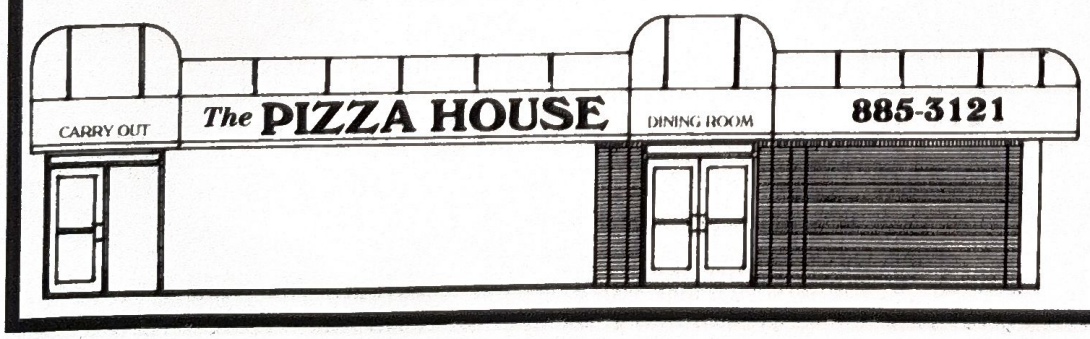

Renoir, Degas, Rodin, Pissarro, Klee and others, thru 2/14/93; French Impressionism tour, 12/11 at noon & 12/13 at 2 pm; exhibit adm $4.50, students & senior citizens $2, members free. *People, Places and Things: An African-American Perspective*, works from the permanent collection by Larry Collins, William Hawkins, Carlyle Johnson, Roman Johnson, Debra Priestly, Aminah Robinson and Pheoris West, thru 2/28/93; exhibit adm free. *New Photography Acquisitions: Selections from the Ross Collection*, thru 2/15/93; *George Bellows Lithographs*, from the permanent collection, thru 1/3/93. *The Paintings of George Bellows*, major retrospective of the realist's paintings, thru 1/3/93; tour 12/4 at noon; exhibit adm $4.50, students & senior citizens $2, members free. Tue-Fri 11 am-4 pm, Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun 11 am-5 pm; closed Mon. Gen adm free; special exhibit adm varies.

Ft Hayes Visual Arts Gallery—546 Jack Gibbs Blvd, 261-6268 or 365-6681. *Ft Hayes Visual Arts Faculty Exhibition*, thru 12/16. Mon-Fri 8 am-4:30 pm; closed Sat-Sun.

Grandview Heights Public Library—1685 W First Ave, 486-2954. *Water Colors by M Croxton Powell*, 12/1 thru 31. Mon-Fri 9 am-9 pm, Sat 9 am-5 pm; closed Sun.

Great Southern Hotel—310 S High St, 228-3800. *Watercolor Ohio '92: Ohio Watercolor Society's Awards—Tour Show*, thru 1/3/93. Open days and evenings.

Highlight

Christmas music abounds this month with a little something for everyone. Experience the sounds of Christmas—Irish style—with **The Chieftains**, a world-renowned Irish band performing at the Palace Theatre Dec. 11. Or if jazz is more to your liking, **Mel Torme** (with full orchestra) will perform Christmas classics Dec. 13, also at the Palace. For more Christmas performances, see Concerts.

Hammond Galleries—203 S Broad St, Lancaster, 1-653-0663. *Holiday Miniature Show*, small paintings by American, French and English artists, thru 12/12. Mon-Sat 9:30 am-9 pm, Sun 1-5 pm.

Hopkins Hall Gallery—128 N Oval Mall, 292-5072. *Ceramics by Amy Schusser*, MFA thesis exhibition, thru 12/4. Mon, Wed & Fri 9 am-5 pm, Tue & Thu 9 am-7 pm, Sat 10 am-2 pm; closed Sun.

Martin Luther King Complex—867 Mt Vernon Ave, 292-0538. *Songs of My People*, photographs of African-Americans by Sharon Farmer, thru 12/27. Tue & Thu 1-4 pm & 7-9 pm, Wed & Fri-Sat 1-4 pm, Sun 2-5 pm; closed Mon.

Roberta Kuhn Gallery—641 N High St, Ste 106, 365-9679. *Group Show*, thru 12/8; *New Paintings, New Directions*, works by David L Louis, thru 12/30. Tue-Sat noon-4 pm; closed Sun-Mon.

Mayhew Gallery—Humphreys Art Hall, Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, 1-368-3600. *Drawings by Donald Roberts*, thru 1/15/93. Mon-Fri 9 am-5 pm, Sat 9 am-noon; closed Sun.

Ohio State University Main Library—Philip Sills Exhibit Hall, 1858 Neil Ave, OSU, 292-0538. *Illusions: Ethnicity in American Cartoon Art*, thru 12/11. Mon-Sat 8 am-midnight, Sun 11 am-midnight.

Olin Art Gallery—Kenyon College, Gambier, 1-427-5158. *Kenyon Show*, juried works by Kenyon students, 12/1 thru 19, opening 12/1 from 7-9 pm. Mon-Sat 8:30 am-midnight, Sun 9:30 am-midnight.

Laura Paul Gallery—600 S Lazelle St, 224-8808. *Party Time* and other works on canvas and serigraphs by Giancarlo Impiglia and *holiday jewelry by Angela Cummings*, 12/1 thru 31. Mon-Fri 10 am-5 pm; Sat by appointment; closed Sun.

Reynolds/Heller P&F Gallery—2645 Morse Rd, 861-0044. *Paintings by Carol Griffith, Earl Hassenpflug, Marti Steffy, Carolyn Beavers, Bess Alexander, Micki Samson, Jeny Reynolds and Jane Heller, glass by Cathy Tietz and Mary Watkins; ceramics by Virginia Mitchem; enamels by Ruth Markus* and *collages by Brenda Merriman*, 12/1 thru 1/31/93. Mon-Fri 9 am-5 pm; closed Sat-Sun.

Riffe Gallery—77 S High St, 466-2613. *Fabric Gardens*, international exhibition of 48 quilts, thru 1/8/93. Mon-Wed 11 am-4 pm, Thu-Fri 11 am-7:30 pm, Sat noon-4 pm; closed Sun.

Roy G Biv Gallery—772 N High St, Suite 103, 297-7694. *Mixed media group salon show*, 12/1 thru 31. Wed-Sat noon-5 pm; closed Sun-Tue.

Schumacher Gallery—Capital University, 2199 E Main St, 236-6319. *Central Ohio Watercolor Society Winter Exhibit*, thru 12/11. Mon-Fri 1-5 pm, Sat-Sun 2-5 pm.

Short North galleries—North High Street between Goodale and Fifth, also adjoining streets, 299-0860. Gallery hopping, featuring the opening of new exhibits in several galleries, 12/5 from 6-9 pm. See listings for Acme Art Gallery, Roberta Kuhn Gallery, Roy G Biv Gallery and Sally Windels.

Upper Arlington Public Library—2800 Tremont Rd, 486-9621. *Dolls*, loaned by Jean Beckett and *quilt*, loaned by Virginia Shaefer, 12/1 thru 31. Mon-Fri 9:30 am-9 pm, Sat 9 am-6 pm, Sun 1-6 pm; closed 12/24 at 2 pm thru 12/27, and 12/31 at 5 pm thru 1/1/93.

Vetro Marmo Arte—77 Mill St, Gahanna, 476-2211. *A Touch of Glass*, works of contemporary American studio glass, 12/4 thru 30, opening reception 12/4 & 5 from 7-9 pm. Tue-Sat noon-6 pm & by appointment.

Wehrle Gallery—Ohio Dominican College, 1216 Sunbury Rd, 251-4771. *Paintings by Juris Kakis*, 12/6 thru 1/17/93. Mon-Fri 9 am-5 pm, Sat-Sun 1-5 pm.

Wexner Center—N High St at 15th Ave, OSU, 292-0330. *Will/Power: New Works by Hachivi Edgar Heap of Birds, Papo Colo, Jimmie Durham, David Hammons, Adrian Piper and Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson*, commissioned works on displacement and cultural identity, thru 12/27, in galleries B, C & D. *Framing American Cities: New York/Columbus/San Francisco*, interactive installation by architect/sculptor Mark Robbins, thru 12/27. *American Daguerreotypes: Selections from the Floyd and Marion Rinhart Collection*, thru 12/20. Tue-Wed 10 am-6 pm, Thu-Sat 10 am-8 pm, Sun noon-5 pm; lights off 12/1; closed Mon & 12/24, 25 & 1/1/93.

Sally Windels—688 N High St, 469-1000. *Paintings by Eastern European artist Rumen Rachev*, thru 12/31. Mon-Sat 10 am-5 pm; closed Sun.

Worthington Public Library—805 Hartford St, 885-3185. *The History of the Universe, Vol. II*, exhibit by Susan Sturgill, and *Teddy Bears*, loaned by the Teddy Bear Co-op, 12/1 thru 31. Mon-Thu 9 am-9 pm, Fri-Sat 9 am-6 pm, Sun 1-5 pm.

film

Columbus Museum of Art—*Masters of Illusion*, about use of perspective and development of visual tools, 12/13 at noon; *Matisse*, about the artist and his works, 12/27 at 2 pm, Columbus Museum of Art, 480 E Broad St, 221-6801. Free.

Martin Luther King Center—Family Film Series, 12/19 at 1 pm, King Center, 867 Mt Vernon Ave, 252-5464. Adm $1, children 50¢.

Ohio Wesleyan University—Classic Film Series, featuring *Walkabout*, 1971 drama directed by Nicholas Roeg, 12/1 & 2; *Desperately Seeking Susan*, 1985 comedy directed by Susan Seidelman, starring Rosanna Arquette, Aidan Quinn and Madonna, 12/8 & 9;

Olentangy Valley NEWS

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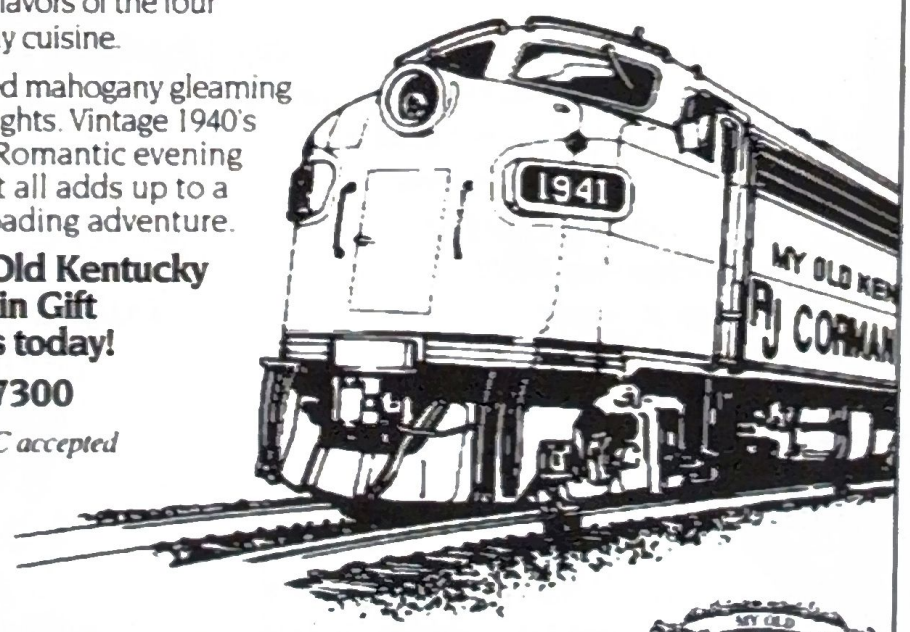

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both films at 7:30 pm, Strand Theatre, 28 E Winter St, Delaware. 1-363-4914. Tickets $4.50.

Wexner Center—*Body Types* films: *Hearing Voices*, Sharon Grevtak, 1989 feminist critique of the beauty industry, 12/2; *The Famine Within*, by Katherine Dunn, day, 1990 documentary on feminine beauty, 12/4; films at 7:30 pm, Film/Video Theatre, Wexner Center, N High St at 15th Ave, OSU, 292-0330. Tickets members, students & senior citizens $3.

dance

Friday, Dec 4 & 5

OSU Department of Dance—dance graduate dent Tim Veach and music student Neil Cassidy senting MFA concert exploring myth and reality, 8 call for location, 292-7977. Free.

Thursday, Dec 10 thru 12

Denison University Department of Dance—*Faculty Dance Concert*, featuring works by fac members April Berry-Burkey, Ellen Hofmeister Sandra Mathern-Smith, 8 pm, Doane Dance Ce Denison University, Granville, 1-587-6712. Tickets students & senior citizens $2.

Friday, Dec 11 thru 27

BalletMet—John McFall, director, presenting Tch kovsky's *The Nutcracker*, 12/11, 17 & 18 at 8 p 12/12, 19, 20, 23, 26 & 27 at 2 & 8 pm, 12/13 & 24 a pm, Ohio Theatre, 39 E State St, 229-4848. Ticket $11-$38.

Friday, Dec 18 thru 20

Zivili—*Croatian Christmas in Columbus*, 12/18 at 8 pm, 12/19 at 2 & 8 pm; 12/20 at 2 pm, Third Avenue Performance Space, 1066 N High St, 855-7805. Tickets $12, advance $10; students, children & senior citizens $7.

lectures

Thursday, Dec 3 thru 17

Columbus Cultural Arts Center—Conversations & Coffee series, featuring *mixed media artist Susan Rosenthal*, 12/3; *Madrigal, Choral, Jazz Songs for the Holidays*, mixed ensemble from Columbus Alternative School, 12/10; *mixed media artist Louis Grunewald*, 12/17; all from noon-1 pm, bring sack lunch, Columbus Cultural Arts Center, 139 W Main St, 645-7047. Free.

Tuesday, Dec 8

Upper Arlington Public Library—Books and Coffee Series, book review by library staff, bring brown-bag lunch; coffee, tea and dessert provided, 12:15 pm; Upper Arlington Public Library, 2800 Tremont Rd, 486-9621; call branch locations for more programs. Free.

Sunday, Dec 13

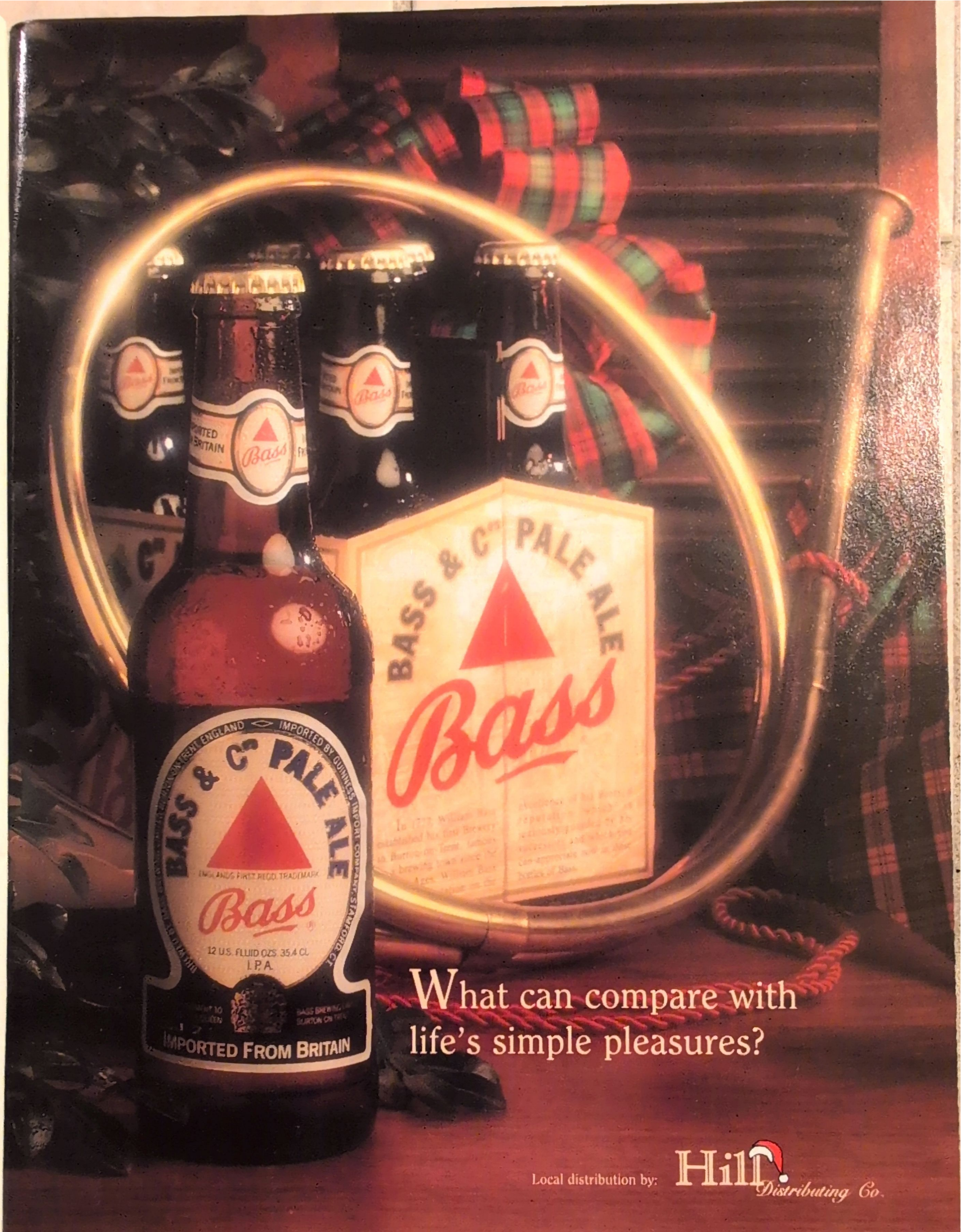
Columbus Museum of Art—*Glass artist Christopher Ries*, slide/lecture by the artist, 2 pm, followed by reception at Riley Hawk Glass Gallery, 642 N High St; Columbus Museum of Art, 480 E Broad St, 221-6801. Adm $5; members, students & senior citizens $3.

Wednesday, Dec 16

Grandview Heights Public Library—Books & More series of book reviews, featuring Sattereh Farman-Farmaian's *Daughter of Persia: A Woman's Journey from Her Father's Harem Through the Islamic Revolution*, presented by Mary Cantwell, 2-3 pm, Grandview Heights Public Library, 1685 W First Ave, 486-2951. Free.

for children

Columbus Cultural Arts Center—139 W Main St, 645-7047. *Native American Beadwork*, discussion and project with Native American artist Emma Bailey, for grades 5-8, 12/5 from 2-4 pm; adm $5. *Interacting Artistically with Your Child*, for parents and children, 12/6 from 2-3:30 pm; adm $5 per person. *Great Greetings*, creating holidays greeting cards with instructor Christy Bancroft, for ages 3-6, 12/12 from 2-3 pm; adm $3.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Martin Luther King Complex—867 Mt Vernon Ave, 292-0538. *Holiday Cookies and Books*, children's book-fair, 12/5 from noon-5 pm. Free.

Players Youth Theatre Columbus—Studio II Theatre, Riffe Center, State & High sts, 644-8425 or 431-3600. *Tales from Beatrix Potter*, adapted by Steven C Anderson, 11/27, 12/4 & 11 at 7:30 pm; 11/28, 12/5 & 12 at 11 am & 1, 2:30 & 4 pm; 11/29, 12/6 & 13 at 1, 2:30 & 4 pm. Tickets $4.50.

Wexner Center—Film/Video Theatre, N High St at 15th Ave, OSU, 292-0330. *Christopher Columbus: The Shame in Glory*, play by Hank Fincken, with Fincken as Columbus and children in the audience as the Royal Court of Spain, 12/6 from 1-2:30 pm; pre-registration required. Fee $3.50, children $2.50; members $3 & $2.

festivals

Saturday, Dec 5 & 6

Hilliard Hollyfest—10th annual festival, featuring handcrafted items, including wood carving and basket weaving, and a booth for pets' pictures with Santa, 12/5 from 10 am-5 pm, 12/6 from 10 am-3 pm, Hilliard High School, 5100 Davidson Rd, 876-7666. Adm $2, children 13-18 and Golden Buckeyes $1, children under 13 free.

sports

Ameritech Mobile Run Across Ohio—Open Shelter, 370 W State St, (800) 786-6446. 256-mile run beginning in Cincinnati, traveling on Rt 3 through Columbus to Cleveland, to benefit the homeless, 12/1 thru 5. Call for pledge information.

Beulah Park Jockey Club—3664 Grant Ave, Grove City, 871-9600. Thoroughbred racing, 12/3 thru 6, 10 thru 13, 17 thru 20, 26 & 27 at 12:30 pm. Adm $2.

Boxing—12/3 at 7:30 pm, Columbus Convention Center, Battelle Hall, 400 N High St, 221-6700. Adm $10-$25.

Cincinnati Bengals—Riverfront Stadium, Cincinnati, (513) 621-3550. Home games: *New England*, 12/20 at 1 pm; *Indianapolis*, 12/27 at 1 pm. Tickets $23.50-$26.

Cleveland Browns—Cleveland Stadium, Cleveland, (216) 696-3800. Home games: *Cincinnati*, 12/6 at 1 pm; *Houston*, 12/20 at 1 pm. Tickets $17-$30.

Columbus Chill—Fairgrounds Coliseum, I-71 & 17th Ave, 488-4455. Home games: *Johnstown*, 12/11 at 7:30 pm; *Richmond*, 12/12 at 7:30 pm; *Louisville*, 12/16 at 7:30 pm; *Dayton*, 12/20 & 31 at 6 pm; *Nashville*, 12/22 at 7:30 pm; *Erie*, 12/27 at 2 pm. Tickets $10, students & children 17 & under $7.

Columbus Figure Skating Club—*Holiday Season Figure Skating Competition*, with more than 100 skaters participating in a holiday showcase, freestyle and dance competitions, 12/12 from 9 am-6 pm, 12/13 from 9 am-1 pm, OSU Ice Rink, 390 Woody Hayes Dr, 793-2252. Spectators free.

Columbus Horizon—Columbus Convention Center, Battelle Hall, 400 N High St, 224-3865. Professional basketball; home games: *Quad City*, 12/1 & 10; *Fort Wayne*, 12/6; *Rapid City*, 12/8; *Rockford*, 12/13; *Yakima*, 12/15; *La Crosse*, 12/18; *Albany*, 12/30; all games at 7:05 pm. Tickets $5, $7 & $10.

Dirt Bike Competition—Coliseum, state fairgrounds, I-71 & 17th Ave, 644-3247. Columbus Indoor Motocross, 12/4 & 5 at 8 am, 12/6 at 2 pm. Tickets $12, advance $10.

Jingle Bell Run—Columbus Convention Center, 400 N High St, 488-0777. 5-kilometer run/jog/walk, sponsored by Max & Erma's, benefiting Arthritis Foundation, 12/6 at 3 pm, beginning at Columbus Convention Center. Fee $15, advance $12.

Ohio State University sports—292-2624.

Basketball, men's—St John Arena. *Ohio University*, 12/1 at 8 pm; *Southern California*, 12/5 at 2 pm; *Bowling Green*, 12/12 at 8 pm; *Wright State*, 12/16 at 8 pm; *at West Virginia*, 12/19 at 9:30 pm; *North Carolina*, 12/22 at 7:30 pm; At Far West Classic in Portland, Ore-

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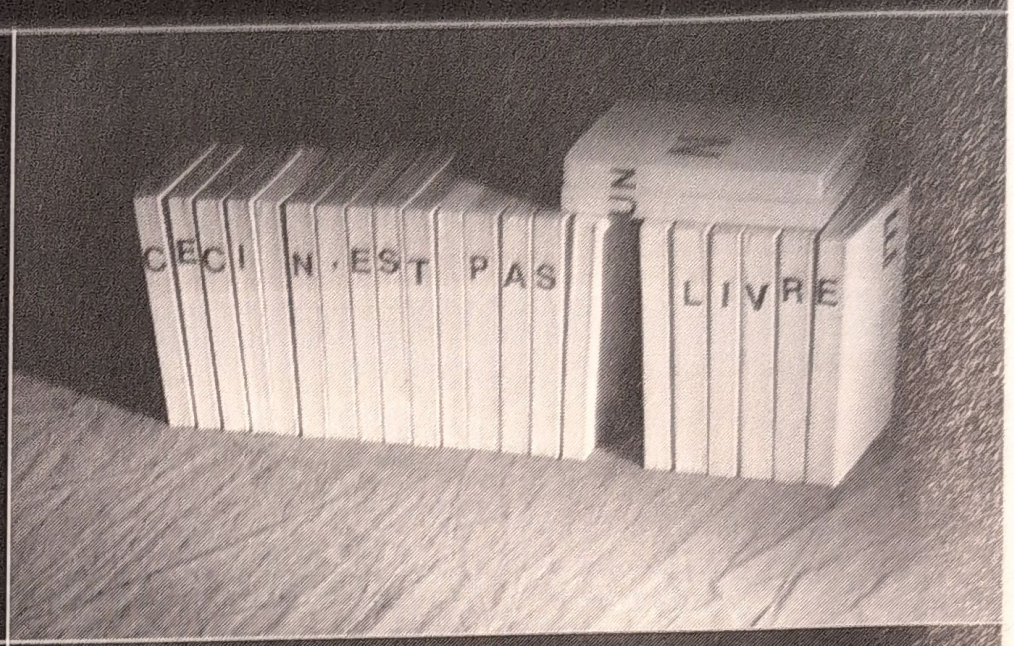

Letter books
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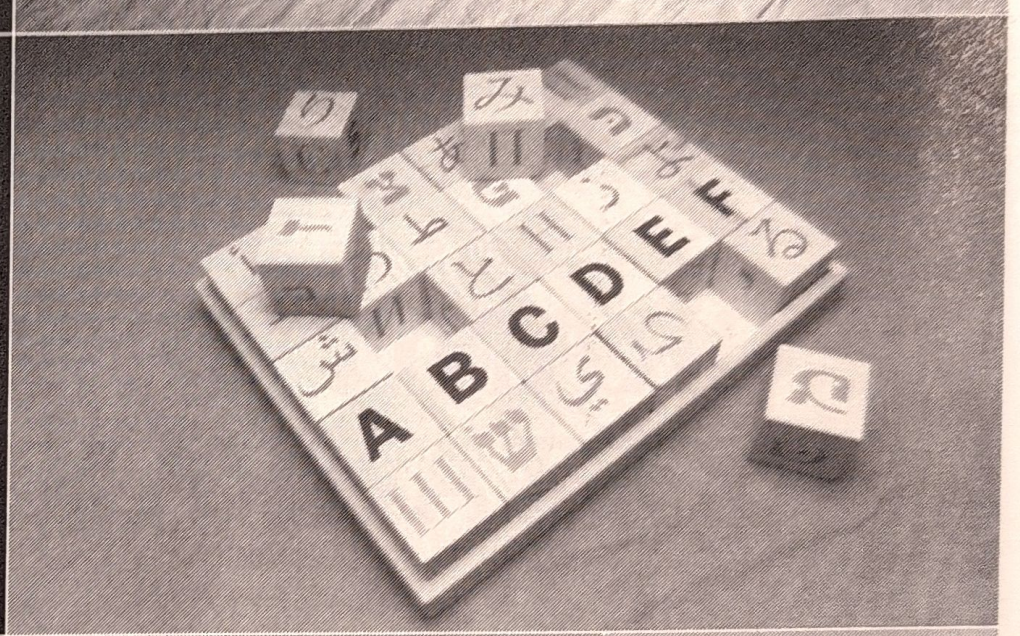

Global alphabet blocks
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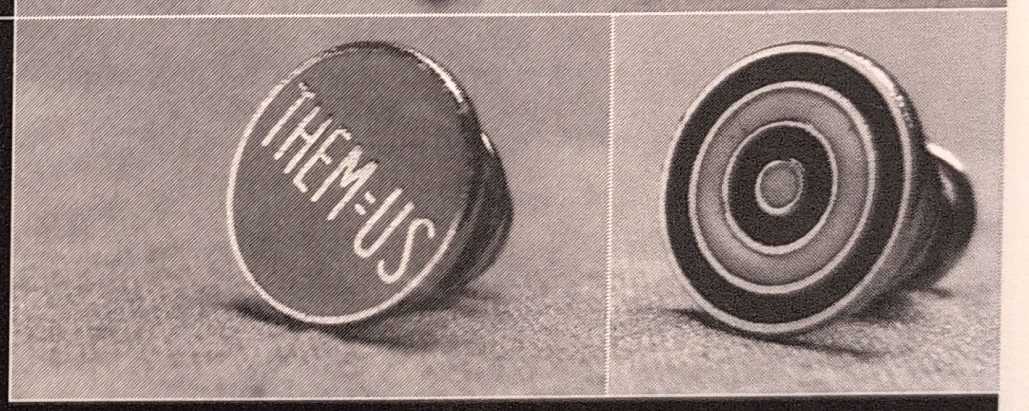

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gon: *Ohio State vs Oregon State*, 12/28 at 10 pm; *Brigham Young vs Oregon*, 12/28 at 12:15 pm; *Consolation game*, 12/29 at 10 pm; *Championship game*, 12/29 at 12:15 pm. Tickets $15.50, students $5, faculty and staff $13.

Basketball, women's—St John Arena. Home games: *Bowling Green*, 12/4 at 7:30 pm; *Buckeye Classic*, 12/18 & 19 (*Georgia vs Missouri-Kansas*, 12/18 at 6 pm; *Ohio State vs Central Michigan*, 12/ at 8 pm; *Consolation game*, 12/19 at 6 pm; *Championship game*, 12/19 at 8 pm); *UCLA*, 12/22 at 2:30; *Syracuse*, 12/30 at 7:30. Tickets $3, students $2, faculty and staff $2.50.

Ice hockey—OSU ice rink. Home games: *Ferris State*, 12/4 & 5; *Notre Dame*, 12/11; *Illinois-Chicago*, 12/12; all at 7 pm. Adm $5, faculty $4, students $3, standing room only $2.

Wrestling—12/12 at 8 pm, Columbus Convention Center, Battelle Hall, 400 N High St, 221-6700 for ticket information.

museums

Center of Science and Industry (COSI)—280 E Broad St, 228-6361. Four floors of changing science, health, industry and history exhibits, plus planetarium; AnimaLab small animal exhibit; Kidspace and Family Space exhibits for children; computerized visitors' center; Jeffrey Coal Mine No 1, daily coal mine tours; old-time black and white films shown daily in the Leo Yassenoff Nickelodeon Theatre. Open Mon-Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun noon-5:30 pm, closed holidays. Adm $5, students & senior citizens $3, families $15, members free.

Columbus Museum of Art—480 E Broad St, 221-6801. European and American paintings and sculpture, European decorative arts, ethnic arts, Chinese and Japanese art, sculpture park and continuing program of traveling exhibits; group tours are available. **Museum Shop** features gifts, cards, posters, books and other items. Open Tue-Fri 11 am-4 pm, Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun 11 am-5 pm, closed Mon; museum restaurant, the **Palette Cafe**, open 11:30 am-1:30 pm Tue-Fri & noon-2 pm Sat-Sun. Gen adm free; adm for special exhibitions varies (see Exhibitions).

zoos

The Columbus Zoo—9990 Riverside Dr, Powell (on the Scioto River, Rt 257, four miles N of the intersection of rts 161 & 33), 645-3400. Open 9 am-5 pm daily. Adm $5, senior citizens & children 2-11 $3, children under 2 free; parking $2.

miscellaneous

Saturday, Nov 14 thru Dec 6

Eddie Bauer Merchandise Sale—Mon-Fri 10 am-9 pm, Sat 10 am-6 pm, Sun 11 am-6 pm, closed 11/26; Veterans Memorial, 300 W Broad St, 221-4341 for more information.

Friday, Nov 20 thru Dec 30

Wildlight Wonderland—thousands of lights throughout the zoo, carolers, children's train ride and crafts, wagon rides, reindeer, Santa and more, Sun-Thu from 5-9 pm, Fri-Sat from 5-10 pm (closed 12/24 & 25); Columbus Zoo, 9990 Riverside Dr, Powell, 645-3550. Adm $4, children & senior citizens $2 ($1 discount after 4 pm); parking $2.

Wednesday, Nov 25 thru Jan 3

Holiday in Lights—half-mile drive thru displays of more than 60,000 holiday lights, 500 illuminated trees and holiday-theme figures, Sun-Thu 6-10:30 pm, Fri-Sat 6-11:30 pm, Griggs Reservoir Campground, Riverside Dr, 461-6285. Adm $5 per car, $20 per bus.

Friday, Nov 27 thru Dec 31

Laser Holiday Tree—laser tree that moves to music, during museum hours, Center of Science and Industry,

280 E Broad St, 228-2674. Adm $5; students, children & senior citizens $3; families $15; members free.

Tuesday, Dec 1 thru 31

Santa Maria—self-guided tours through replica of Columbus's ship Santa Maria, costumed interpreters on board, Santa Maria, Battelle Park, Marconi Blvd, downtown, 645-8760 for recording of hours. Adm $3.50, senior citizens $3, students $1.50.

Wednesday, Dec 2 thru 30

Ohio Historical Society Holiday Season—activities at the Ohio Historical Center and Ohio Village, including Victorian-style holiday activities, caroling with the *Village Singers*, family films, carriage rides and *The Nutcracker: Celebrating 100 Years* exhibition, with props and costumes from past BalletMet performances, 12/2 thru 30; plus special meals at the Colonel Crawford Inn; *Holiday Illumination* opening ceremony, with bonfire, caroling, a performace by BalletMet children and more, 12/2 from 6-9 pm; *Civil War Christmas*, 12/5 from 12:30-9 pm, 12/6 from 12:30-3 pm; *Nutcracker Family Day*, 12/5 from 1-4 pm; *African-American Holiday Programs*, 12/5, 12 & 19; Ohio Village open 12/1, 24 & 30 from 9 am-5 pm; 12/2 thru 23 Wed-Sun from 12:30-9 pm; closed 12/25. Ohio Historical Center open 12/1 from 9 am-5 pm; 12/2 thru 30 Mon-Sat from 9 am-9 pm, Sun 10 am-9 pm; closed 12/25. Ohio Historical Center, I-71 & 17th Ave, 297-2300 for more information. Adm $4, children 6-12 $1, children under 6 free.

Highlight

"I wanna be a part of it, New York, New York...." The **Big Apple Festival** provides a chance for everyone to experience the hustle and bustle of early 1900s New York, the city that inspired many of **George Bellows's** paintings. Visitors at the Columbus Museum of Art Dec. 6 will find "Coney Island" attractions and can learn more about the life and work of Bellows, a Columbus native. See Miscellaneous.

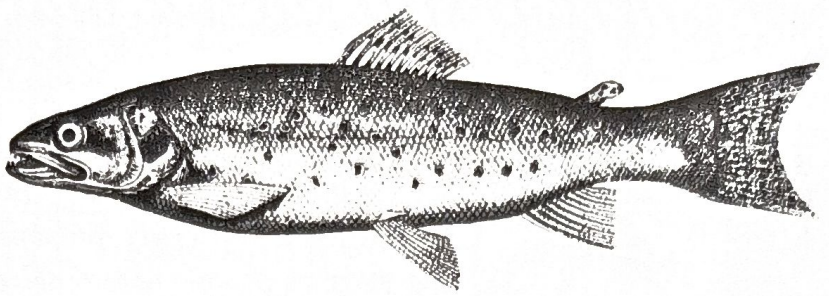
Wednesday, Dec 2 thru Jan 1

State Auto Christmas Display—61st annual lighted, life-size nativity scene, sponsored by State Auto Insurance, lighting ceremony and music by *Deshler Elementary Choir*, 12/2 at 8 pm; lighted nativity 12/3 thru 1/1/93 Mon-Fri 6-8 am & 5:30-11:30 pm, Sat-Sun until 12:30 am, 12/24 until 4 am; choral performances by *State Auto Sound*, 12/4; *Holy Cross Lutheran Church of the Deaf Choir*, 12/6; *Columbus Boys Concert Choir*, 12/11; *Broad Street United Methodist Church Choir*, 12/13; *to be announced*, 12/18; *Worthington Presbyterian Church Choir*, 12/20, all at 7:30 pm; State Auto, 518 E Broad St, 464-4902. Free.

Thursday, Dec 3 thru 6

Columbus Winterfair—annual exhibition and sale of contemporary crafts sponsored by the Ohio Designer Craftsmen, featuring works by 350 artisans from across the country working in various mediums, 12/3 thru 5 from noon-9:30 pm, 12/6 from noon-6 pm, Bricker Bldg, state fairgrounds, I-71 & 17th Ave, 486-7119. Adm for all four days $5; children 12 & under free.

Fresh never frozen.



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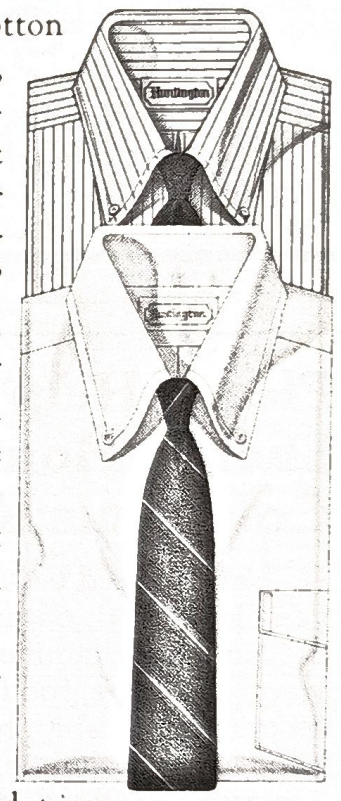

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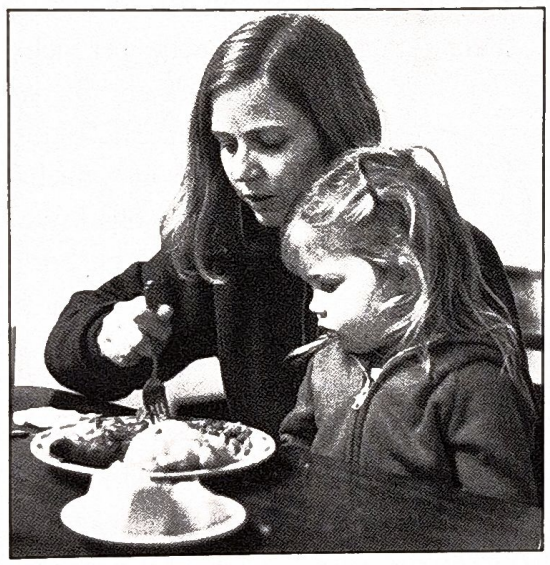

We sheltered 640 kids last year! Homeless, out in the cold, they and their families found a warm welcome, food, shelter, security, friendship, help and hope in the Volunteers of America FAMILY SHELTER. They stayed an average of 24 days before being resettled.

Your support is again needed as other families face crises. Please make sure the next homeless family in need gets help. *Fortune* magazine has cited us as one of this country's most efficient (low overhead) charities. Please write us your check now while you're thinking about it. Thank YOU!

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Thursday, Dec 3 thru 20

Victorian Christmas at Kelton House—*Victorian Fantasy Fair*, featuring lunch, tours and local crafts vendors, 12/3 from 10 am-4 pm; adm $1.50 for tours only; call for lunch price and reservations. Tour of historical displays and Victorian decorations led by costumed guides, seasonal entertainment, music, refreshments, 12/6, 13 & 20 from 1-5 pm; adm $2.50, students & senior citizens $2. Kelton House Museum, 586 E Town St, 464-2022.

Friday, Dec. 4

Bidding on Our Future—auction benefiting Common Cause, 7 pm, Fawcett Center, 2400 Olentangy River Rd, OSU, 461-0733. Tickets advance $10.

Holiday Fling—luncheon and style show, benefiting Easter Seals, 11:30 am-1:30 pm, Hyatt Regency, 350 N High St, 231-9779 or 889-9444. Tickets $15.

Saturday, Dec 5

Candy Cane Charity Ball—29th annual ball, *Holidays Around the World* theme, pre-party ambassador's reception with hors d'oeuvres, entertainment and more, 6-7 pm; cocktails 7-7:30 pm; ball and dinner 7:30 pm-midnight; benefitting Grant Medical Center's reduction of infant mortality program; Hyatt Regency, 350 N High St, 475-3748. Tickets $125 per person; cocktails & ball only $75 per person.

Holiday Happiness—visit from Santa & Mrs Claus, model train exhibit, live performances, craft demonstrations, music by *The Troubadours*, children's activities and more, 9:30 am-5 pm, Upper Arlington Public Library, 2800 Tremont Rd, 486-9621. Free.

Nutcracker Ball—cocktails, dinner and dancing, *Winter Kingdom* theme, benefiting BalletMet, 7 pm, Hyatt on Capitol Square, 75 E State St, 229-4860. Tickets $275 per person.

Saturday, Dec 5 & 6

Hot Corner Sports Cards—baseball card show, 10 am-5 pm, Veterans Memorial Aud, 300 W Broad St, 221-4341 for more information.

Ohio State Persian Club Cat Show—12/5 from 8 am-5 pm, 12/6 from 9 am-5 pm, Lausche Bldg, state fairgrounds, I-71 & 17th Ave, 644-3247. Tickets $4, children under 12 $3.

Saturday, Dec 5 thru 10

Dawes Arboretum—Christmas decorations workshops, including *arrangement for wildlife*, 12/5 from 10 am-noon, 12/8 from 1-3 pm & 7-9 pm; *arrangement for your table*, 12/5 from 10 am-noon, 12/8 from 1-3 pm & 7-9 pm; *Christmas wreath*, 12/5 from 1-3 pm, 12/8 from 10 am-noon, 12/10 from 10 am-noon, 1-3 pm & 7-9 pm; *candle centerpiece*, 12/5 from 1-3 pm, 12/10 from 1-3 pm & 7-9 pm; Dawes Arboretum, Rt 13 between Newark and I-70, (800) 443-2937 or 1-323-2355 to register. Fee $20 per workshop.

Saturday, Dec 5 & 13

Central Ohio Hiking Club—4-6-mile hikes for adults; *Mystery Hike*, 12/5 at 10:15 am; *Big Walnut Park—Christmas Party*, hike, party games and potluck dinner, 12/13 at 3 pm; meet at Central Branch YMCA, 40 W Long St, 231-7858. Fee depends on mileage to site.

Sunday, Dec 6

Big Apple Festival—Coney Island-type attractions, including carnival treats, street performers, musical entertainment, a treasure hunt, a portrait artist, children's activities, ragtime revue and more, plus a tour of the George Bellows exhibit, 1-4 pm, Columbus Museum of Art, 480 E Broad St, 221-6801. Adm $7, children, students & senior citizens $4; members $5 & $3.

Fabulous Fall Fundraiser—sale of new women's apparel donated by local merchants, to benefit Wexner Heritage House, 11 am-4 pm, Wexner Heritage House, 1151 College Ave, 237-7417. Free.

German Village Holiday Tour of Homes—cocktails, dinner and tour of five homes with transportation in restored stagecoaches, sponsored by the German Village Society, 5:30 pm, 221-8888 for reservations. Tickets $65.

Holiday Gala at Worthington Square—semi-formal evening of private after-hours shopping, entertainment, gourmet cocktail buffet and raffles, benefiting the Hospice at Riverside Methodist Hospitals, 6-9 pm, Worthington Square Mall, Wilson Bridge Rd, Worthington, 459-0603 or 457-2498. Tickets $50.

Homes for the Holidays Floral Tour—16th annual tour of three local homes decorated by area florists,

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The Columbus Quincentenary Coins

This daring historical voyage and the courageous man who led it are featured on three spectacular commemorative coins produced and sold by the United States Mint. The Five Dollar Gold Coin obverse, designed by James Ferrell, bears a portrait of Columbus facing a map of the New World. The reverse, designed by Thomas Rogers, shows the Crest of the Admiral of the Oceans, an honor bestowed on Columbus.

The One Dollar Silver Coin features on its obverse a design by John Mercanti – a full-figure rendering of Columbus beside a globe, with his ships above. Thomas Rogers' reverse design is a dramatic split image of the Santa Maria and the U.S. Space Shuttle Discovery, symbolizing discovery then and now. The obverse design of the Half Dollar Clad Coin is a scene of Columbus landing in the New World. His three ships are depicted on the reverse. Both designs are the work of James Ferrell.

The Columbus Quincentenary Coins

Columbus Quincentenary Coin Specifications

Denomination:	Five Dollar	One Dollar	Half Dollar
Composition:	90% gold (0.24 troy ounce) 4% copper 6% silver	90% silver (0.76 troy ounce) 10% copper	92% copper (0.33 troy ounce) 8% nickel
Weight:	8.359 grams	26.73 grams	11.34 grams
Diameter:	0.850 inch	1.500 inches	1.205 inches

Map courtesy of Library of Congress circa 1565. Coins shown are not actual size.

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7	X07		Single Silver Dollar Uncirculated	28.00	
8	X08		Two-Coin Uncirculated Set: Half Dollar and Silver Dollar	32.00	
9	X09		Single Gold Five Dollar Uncirculated	210.00	
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sponsored by the Lancaster Junior Women's Club, 12:30-4:30 pm, 1-654-1603 or 1-687-9380. Tickets $5, advance $4.

Sunday, Dec 6 thru 20

Christmas Joy with the Orange Johnsons—tours of holiday-decorated historic home, demonstrations of hearth cooking, refreshments available, sponsored by the Worthington Historical Society, plus musical entertainment: *Worthington Recorders*, 12/6 from 2-5 pm; *Capital University Piano Students*, 12/11 from 7-9 pm; *Recorder Musicke*, 12/13 from 2-5 pm; *Worthington Chorus*, 12/18 from 7-9 pm; *Orange Johnson House Singers*, 12/20 from 2-5 pm; Orange Johnson House Museum, 956 High St, Worthington, 885-1247. Adm $1.50, senior citizens $1, members free.

Friday, Dec 11

Lawrence Welk All-Star's Christmas Gala—2 & 8 pm, Veterans Memorial Aud, 300 W Broad St, 221-4341 for more information.

Saturday, Dec 12

Saturday with Santa—crafts, sweets, gifts and Santa Claus, 11 am-4 pm, W Broad Elementary School, 2744 W Broad St, 365-5964. Free.

Saturday, Dec 12 & 13

A Colonial Christmas—handmade crafts and period costumes, 12/12 from 11 am-6 pm, 12/13 from noon-5 pm, Veterans Memorial Aud, 300 W Broad St, 221-4341 for more information.

Sunday, Dec 13

Columbus Antique Flea Market—7 am-4 pm, Lausche Bldg, state fairgrounds, I-71 & 17th Ave, 645-3247. Adm $1.50.

highlight

Go a little wild over Christmas at **Wildlight Wonderland**, featuring thousands of twinkling lights, visits with Santa, horse-drawn wagon rides, Crystal Castle and more at the Columbus Zoo through Dec. 30. See Miscellaneous.

Holiday Home Tour—featuring seven homes in Westerville, sponsored by the Westerville YWCA, 1-4 pm, Church of the Messiah, 51 N State St, Westerville, 882-6846. Tickets $7, advance $5.

Friday, Dec 18 & 19

Magic Christmas of Ohio—shows at 3 & 8 pm, Veterans Memorial Aud, 300 W Broad St, 221-4341 for more information.

Saturday, Dec 19 & 20

Antique Show—12/19 from 9 am-6 pm, 12/20 from 9 am-5 pm, Multipurpose & Celeste bldgs, state fairgrounds, I-71 & 17th Ave, 644-3247. Free.

Saturday, Dec 26 thru 29

BMX Bicycle Motocross—12/26 from 11 am-8 pm, 12/27 from 9 am-finish, 12/28 & 29 from 8 am-finish, Columbus Convention Center, Battelle Hall, 400 N High St, 221-6700. Free.

Sunday, Dec 27

Kwaanza Festival—performances by Africentral warriors and Aziza Nubians from the Columbus Africentral Rites of Passage Kollective, 6-10 pm, Martin Luther King Complex, 867 Mt Vernon Ave, 252-5464 for more information.

Thursday, Dec 31

WOW VI!—New Year's Eve Party with live bands, magician, comedians and more, plus food and beverages, 7 pm-2 am, Hyatt Regency Columbus, 350 N High St, 463-1234 for ticket information. ■

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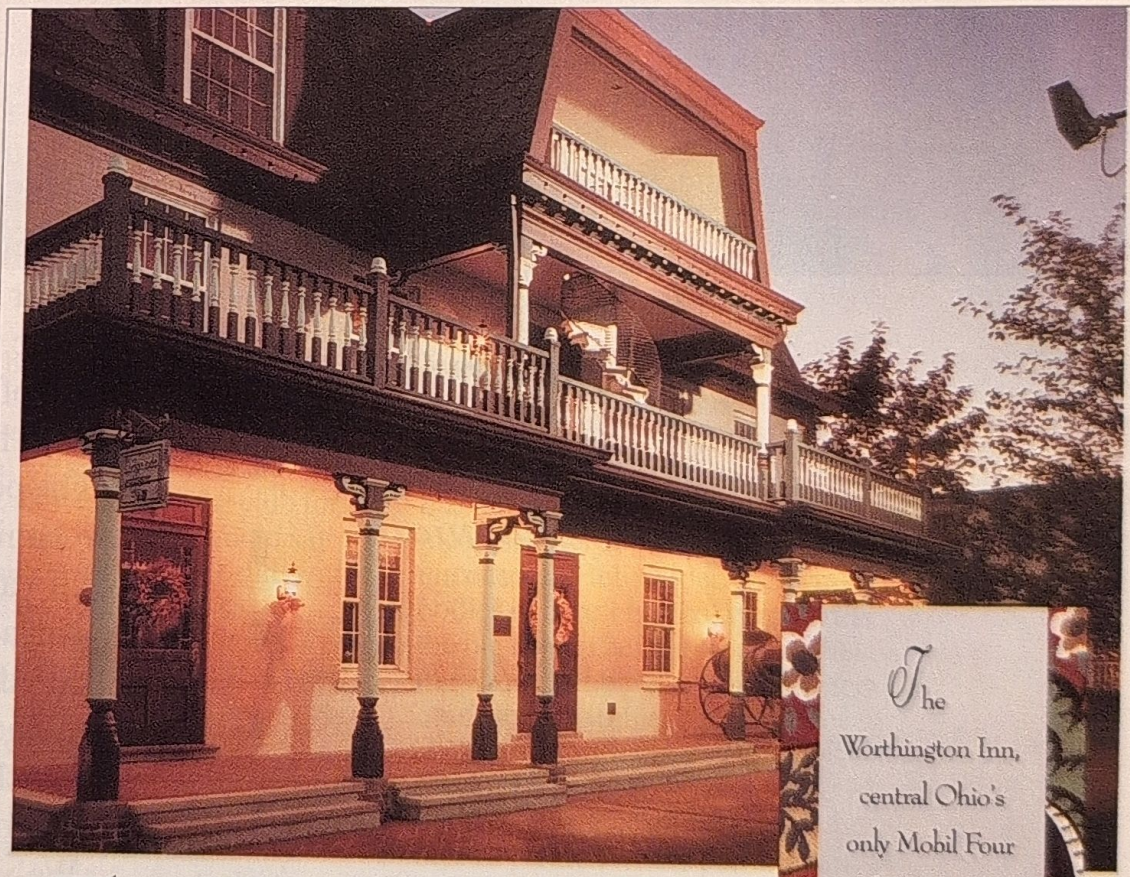

The Worthington Inn

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The Nightlife Hall of Fame

Our team has picked 10 inductees, bars and clubs that have been open for years, avoiding the fads, flameouts and format changes of competitors.

By *John Elsasser, Erik Battenberg* and *Karen Simonian*

Think about your favorite Columbus nightspot of yesteryear. Remember hanging at the Metropolitan Musicafé in City Center, bustin' a move at Cadillac Cafe on Bethel Road or hearing Yvonne Elliman at Dixie Electric Company on the west side?

All of them are gone now, their heydays ancient history. It's not uncommon: Nightspots come and go quicker than mechanical bulls, Coronas with lime and Milli Vanilli.

Not all of them though. Some have endured the fads through the years, operating continuously under the same names, establishing unique personalities and attracting hordes of regulars.

We've come up with 10 that have done just that, earning themselves spots in the first *Columbus Monthly* Nightlife Hall of Fame. They're vastly different places that all have managed to do one thing: become Columbus institutions.

Here are the first 10 inductees.

Fans crowd the stage at the Alrosa Villa.

Alrosa Villa

The Alrosa is an anachronism. Eighteen years after opening, it's a nightclub where heavy metal is still king and members of metal bands—even the local ones—are still heroes. Local wannabes and national up-and-comers or past-their-primers rock the club to large crowds Thursday through Sunday nights. Remember The Godz, the local band that had a couple of regional hits back in the late '70s? Alrosa patrons do, and still come out in droves when the band performs. Alrosa patrons remember a lot of things others have forgotten: flicking Bics when the house lights go down; cheering heartily during long, mediocre drum solos; wearing acid-washed jeans.

"We try to follow a format that if you just take heavy metal, and take all the Phil Collins and the Peter Gabriel and Jethro Tull and Bruce Springsteen out of there, the rest of it is what we keep," says Rick Cautela, who manages the club for his father, the owner. "I would say it's the oldest rock 'n' roll club with the same owner, with the same format, with the same name, in America," Cautela says. "I've been told that we were, and no one's ever challenged me on it."

By talking to his patrons and learning what bands are popular with them, Cautela consistently books crowd-pleasers. And the club thrives. "We're probably having the best year we've had since 1981, '82. So we're coming on strong," Cautela says. "I like to say I'm in competition with small clubs, and I'm a thorn in the ass of concert halls, too."

The Alrosa crowd is unique. "It's a crowd that's more interested in music than most of the nightclubs in Columbus," Cautela says. Long hair, tight jeans, tattoos, black concert shirts, halter tops, black leather and political incorrectness abound. When an uncensored Helix video featuring oodles of bare-chested women fills the big screen between bands, the men hoot and howl and the women don't seem to mind.

The spacious club's layout is ideal for a concert. A large stage with an excellent sound system faces a pit area where patrons can look up to their idols. Dozens of small tables are scattered behind the pit and tiered on the sides and rear of the club to ensure a good view of the band from almost any seat. The long bar toward the back of the club has several stations where hustling bartenders keep the cold ones coming. A few pool tables provide diversions during lame

Seasonal Hall of Fame

Bogey Inn

There's no other place to go during Memorial Tournament week, besides the tournament, of course.

Plank's Bier Garten

This German Village institution is the city's premier softball hangout.

Varsity Club

The most happening place in town before, during and after OSU football games fall Saturdays.

Out-R-Inn

Where the OSU students gravitate during the spring months. Finals? What finals?

The Patio

The live outdoor music spot during the summer. Who cares if everyone wears Polo.

opening bands or long drum solos.

In addition to the local and national bands, the Alrosa hosts a steady stream of tribute bands. Impersonators of Ozzy Osbourne, AC/DC, Metallica and even the less-than-legendary Queensryche each have performed this year.

Strutter, a Kiss-circa-1970s tribute band complete with the makeup, costumes, fire-blowing and blood-spitting, filled the club to standing-room-only in October. After the band closed its set with several explosions, the stage lights dimmed and the crowd started to chant in anticipation of an encore. A not-quite-calm voice announced that the blasts had started a small fire on the ceiling above the stage and asked patrons to file out in an orderly fashion and not panic. The house lights came on and people began to gather their belongings and head for the door.

Seconds later, the suddenly relieved voice announced the fire was out and the band would return. The house lights again dimmed, the stage lights again illuminated, the crowd again roared, the band again played.

As the real Ozzy Osbourne would say, "That's rock 'n' roll!"

Bernie's Distillery

It's a Thursday night in September and the flannel-shirt crowd packed in the smoky, low-ceiling basement bar is having problems trying to talk. The New Bomb Turks—one of the best bands in Columbus according to those in the know—are ripping through another one of their deafening sets at runaway-van speed.

About a dozen Turkheads stand in front of the makeshift stage, which is nothing more than a corner of the bar, and get into the music. Lead singer Eric Davidson smiles at them between songs and slaps some fists. Others toward the back stand and crane their necks, hoping to see the band between the bobbing heads. No one complains.

There are three reasons to go to Bernie's: beer, bands and bagels. OK, the first is a given at most places around town.

However, Bernie's—the bar/deli located along High Street in the OSU campus area—is home of the "passport to fine beers," which tempts bargoers to try more than 70 beers from 20 countries, arguably more than any other Columbus saloon.

Upon completing the passport, the beer guru—now a few hundred dollars poorer—gets his or her own alloy metal mug, which will hang above the bar for use during subsequent visits. There are 750 hanging now.

Veteran bartender Jenny Mullin says the average patron needs two years to go around the world, although one man, in town with ABC sports years back, finished in three days. "He'd just buy lots of people beer," she says. So he cheated.

Then there are the bands. Bargoers can find a band or solo act every night of the week, quite a few without cover charge. Many of the city's better bands—the Turks, Greenhorn, V3—take to the corner stage throughout the month. Recently, more national acts have been booked.

There's definitely an air of history in the subterranean chambers. At one point, there was only Bernie's Bagels at the address, a well-known campus hangout that often featured musicians. Some 12 years ago, the Distillery opened up adjacent to Bernie's to handle the growing musical following. Today, it's called Bernie's Distillery.

And speaking of history, folksy Carole King has played there, and the Tex-Mex outfit Los Lobos stopped by once, but not to perform. "I carded them," Mullin says of Los Lobos. "I was pretty thrilled. I didn't even know who they were."

Bernie's is separated into two sections. One side is the deli, where you can get sandwiches and salads. Folks can take their bagels over to the Distillery side for a brew if they want.

The crowd varies throughout the day. The bar opens at 8:30 am, when the third-shifters might stop by after work. As the day progresses, it's hard telling who might stop by. On a recent Thursday afternoon, we spotted two young bohemians slouched over copies of *The Village Voice*. Bands normally start around 10, thus ending most conversations.

"A lot of people call down here to find out who's playing," Mullin says. "That's what people know about Bernie's."

The Garage

First-time Garage-goers usually are surprised when they enter the signless storefront on Long Street downtown and walk into Trends, a sleepy little bar that shares the address with the booming club most nightlifers were expecting. Trends can serve as a way station—a placid spot for drinks and conversation—before heading into the strobe-light madness of the Garage, which occupies the larger space behind Trends. Just keep walking and you'll eventually get to what assistant manager Vern Campbell calls "the boom-boom room in the back."

After midnight on an October Friday, the Garage is boom-booming in a big way. Classic New Order pumps out of the first-rate sound system, then segues into a recent techno tune. Dozens of multicolored lights flash and bounce off the giant disco ball above the frenzied, furiously dancing flock. Open since 1981, this well-known gay bar—arguably the most popular one in town—is the closest thing to a big-city dance club in Columbus, save relative newcomer 700 High.

Although the first frosts of fall have arrived, dozens of male bargoers are wearing shorts and sweating up a storm as they glide to the deejay's dance music of choice. Many are shirtless. Others wear tank tops. One energetic dancer wearing just his underpants, a belt and sneakers grinds against his bare-torsoed partner. Eye-opening, perhaps, for first-timers, but old nightlife hat for the regulars. Anything goes at the Garage, where the open-minded atmosphere is the single most distinctive component. "We welcome everyone—gay, straight, bisexual," Campbell says.

The spacious two-tiered dance floor is surrounded by onlookers who seem to spend much time checking their hairdos. Though the club is one of the biggest dance halls in town, the flock this Friday doesn't leave much standing room. Business flourishes at the large island bar on one side of the dance

floor. Ditto the smaller bar against the wall on another side.

A group of young women has carved out a niche on the dance floor. An opposite-sex couple is dancing dirty to the Revolting Cocks' "Beers, Steers and Queers." More opposite-sex couples will be on the dance floor Thursday night, which is billed as "progressive night," even though most of the music played is from the late '80s.

The club was once a functioning garage (hence the name), but the large openings through which cars used to enter have been completely filled in by concrete block, while the red brick walls remain, giving the place a warehouse atmosphere. The farther you get from the dance floor, the darker it becomes, the less frequently the lights flash your direction.

A large screen in one corner shows anything from the latest alternative dance videos to classic cult movies to assorted erotica. There are pinball machines and video games in the quieter, much less-crowded back room, which also gives patrons a better opportunity to hold conversations, though there's always Trends.

As closing time approaches, the Friday night crowd is starting to wind down, making plans for an after-hours bash or deciding where they can grab some late-night food. The flashing lights are turned off and the mirrored ball dominates the show as Abba's "Dancing Queen" is put into a new context by two men—one dressed in drag—who dance joyfully to the disco classic.

Larry's

High Street bustles by outside. Cars and buses and people and bikes. Hurry.

Step into Larry's.

Look around the dingy bar.

Feel the sense of community.

The history.

And, yes, the poetry.

Slumming grad students, professors and intellectuals inhabit the campus-area watering hole. Slackers, poets, philosophers. Of all races and creeds.

Berets and beards and long hair not required, but welcome.

"It's the only intellectual bar on campus," says one campus-area denizen.

But . . . How to keep out the rowdy beer-guzzling undergrads, the campus Greeks, the conservatives?

Easy. Spread the word. It's a gay bar (wink, wink).

Larry's Epistemological & Metaphysical Society of Lower Woodruff Avenue, reads a sign behind the bar.

The place is well-worn and weathered. And comforting.

Old dark wooden booths, with words carved in the tables, line one wall. Thin trails of cigarette smoke float up between the high wooden partitions that separate the booths.

A man is stretched out in one, reading.

The group at the next booth discusses Proust and politics over coffee and beer.

Two men play Scrabble, drinking Black Label, lost in the world of their booth, in the world of Larry's.

The pool table in the corner is temporarily ignored.

A man and a woman huddle intently over a game of chess. Others watch.

It's a Saturday night. On campus.

"We've always looked for the quieter crowd," says owner Larry Paoletti, a man as low-key as his bar.

Poetry. The art form is kept alive Monday nights at Larry's. The quietest two hours of the week. Aspiring poets humbly read their work while the audience listens, and thinks.

Matisse prints adorn the walls. Van Goghs and Rembrandts. Sixties-style psychedelic paintings.

Classical music wafts from the antique jukebox stocked with 12-inch vinyl records. Records like Mozart and the Replacements, Miles Davis and Tom Waits.

"The pool table in the corner is temporarily ignored. A man and a woman huddle intently over a game of chess. Others watch."

The bar's rich 50-year history and the promise of a long future lie within its walls. There are recollections of patrons hanging out with their dogs. Of the time a man brought in a pony, and no one really noticed. Of the '60s and Phil Ochs. Of the clientele, a curious cultural stew found in no other campus bar. A bartender reflects.

"A colorful joint."

Papa Joe's

Four guys wearing orange and brown Bowling Green T-shirts, sweatshirts and hats lean against the bar, looking slightly uncomfortable. They're sitting ducks, and they know it. It's several hours after Ohio State mustered a September win over the Falcons.

Sharing a bucket of beer at Papa Joe's.

Newcomers: Future inductees?

700 High

Where the hip kids have been dancing, but will they stay?

K2U

Restaurateur's Kent Rigsby's oh-so-chic Short North drinking and dining spot recently expanded. Looking good.

Lucky's

The one place in the village for dancing to something recorded after 1967. Is that what people want there, though?

One of the four remains a great spot, talking with Buckeye patrons despite calls from nearby Ohio Key backers. (And how do they know his mother?) Finally, the conversation stops when he's beaned in the face with a peanut, thrown from somewhere among the throng on the second level. Welcome to Papa Joe's, boys.

The bar, for better or worse, is an Ohio State University institution. It remains one of the city's most popular *and* most crowded bars. Did we mention fun?

To those outside the university circle who don't understand the mystique, Papa Joe's is an easy target for jokes. A patron might, for instance, remember Papa Joe's as that place where he saw a young woman chug draft beer and eat unshelled peanuts — and later, lose it on the floor, crying all the while.

Well, yeah, but it's all part of the learning experience.

Papa Joe's has anchored the OSU south campus nightlife scene for the past 22 years. In 1970, Columbus pizza czars, the late Gerald Parker and his brother Don, bought the former Pirate's Den and went about trying to change its biker bar image. Today, Gerald's son Patrick Parker runs the show.

For OSU students, Papa Joe's is the quintessential college bar, the kind of place in which nearly everyone has done time, a rite of passage. Nightlife 101.

Count on Joe's for being a big football bar, too; rabid fans can find plenty of compatriots watching a Buckeye game on the big screen. Football action isn't confined to the TV, though. Sentimental OSU alums will recall carrying in part of the goal post after the upset victory over number one Iowa in the Horseshoe in '85, or taking part in beer slides along the wet floor while watching the Michigan game in '87. The goal post, by the way, remains on display behind the downstairs bar.

Papa Joe's is basically a two story brew house. Rows of picnic tables are fastened tightly to the floor. There are stainless steel toilets. The music — perhaps the greatest hits of every party tape ever made — seems to get louder as the evening progresses.

Why, one might wonder, is *this* the place so many college students have chosen to spend their hours drinking themselves blotto? We discreetly chatted up some students.

"He made me come here," says one, pointing toward his roommate, who's presently elbow-deep in a bucket, gathering up the last cup of beer. "I wanted to stay in."

Oh.

The best explanation is that the students and other burgeons get what they want: inexpensive beer and ear-shattering music in an environment in which they can be as wacky as they want. It's the place where somebody can make a complete fool of himself and still manage to have a great time, mostly because 200 others are doing the same.

And by now, of course, it has tradition on its side. Papa Joe's is even a tourist spot of sorts, as the BGSU foursome proved. We checked with them again.

"We've heard about Papa Joe's," said the one who earlier was assaulted by the peanut. "We wanted to check it out for ourselves."

You aren't alone, brother.

Short North Tavern

Some regulars who all but live here, and there are lots of them, say the owner needs to install showers and bunk beds.

"Oh, God," says Short North Tavern owner John Allen upon hearing this. "I'd never get rid of some of them if I did that."

But to Allen, hearing suggestions — or getting remodeling tips — for his bar nestled in the heart of the Short North along High Street isn't unusual.

"Sometimes, I have people bitching and griping and criticizing the place so much," Allen says with a laugh, "I wonder why anyone comes in."

Since 1981, there's been a Short North Tavern in the Short North. The first version was at the site of today's Bermuda Onion deli. Four years ago, Allen moved to more spacious digs several storefronts away. Of course his regulars moved, too.

"Hell, I can't even paint the walls" in here, he says. "Every beer has to come — due to what color is going to be. I changed a mural one time at the old place and it took me two months. They didn't like the new one."

Part of the Short North Tavern's appeal is the down home, everybody's welcome atmosphere feeling Allen has fostered. Just elbow up to the bar and join in conversations over whatever happens to be on the bar TV's Presidential debates. Why does Clinton point with his thumbs? Baseball playoffs. How come Mike Jaya's manager Cito Gaston never smiles?

And the food — available off a limited sandwich/munchies type menu along with nightly specials such as its semi-famous meatloaf — is worth the stop.

"Half the people that eat take their empty plates back to the kitchen themselves when they're done eating," Allen says. "Then they'll make complaints or suggestions." No one would probably look twice if a newcomer did the same, either.

"I always treated the place as an extension of my living room," he says. "The Short North Tavern is very unpretentious. It's very homey."

Allen models his bar after ideas presented in *The Great Good Place*, a book written by a Harvard sociologist, which said that after World War II, European countries lost what were called "third places."

"They're not work and they're not home," Allen says. "The third place is a place where people can come and exchange views and everybody gets to be equal. They can bitch about their job and they can bitch about home, whether they're vice president of Nationwide or some guy that does some kind of manual work."

Or, if that's too academic, Allen has another one.

"We've run it like a little Moose Club, too," he says.

They host a chili cook-off contest. They're in the city's dart league. They have softball teams. Local bands, mainly of the rhythm and blues variety, take to the bar's smallish stage up front Friday and Saturday nights. During winter Sunday afternoons, it's home to a chamber music series, now in its 10th season. It's a veritable

something-for-everyone bar.

"But," Allen says, "if you can't handle being around a lot of different kinds of people, you should go somewhere else."

Stache's

This place is about one thing: live music. "Music is why we're here," says owner Dan Dougan. "If we don't have a band, we're not even open." The club is rarely closed. There's always a band or three. Damn good ones, too. The list of groups that have crammed their instruments and amplifiers onto Stache's tiny stage reads like a Who's Who of alternative music. The Red Hot Chili Peppers. The Replacements. The Violent Femmes. Sonic Youth. John Wesley Harding. Robyn Hitchcock. 10,000 Maniacs. Dread Zeppelin. Buddy Guy. Sun Ra. The Throwing Muses. Richard Thompson. Believe us yet?

By mixing underground rock shows with jazz, blues, zydeco and folk, Dougan brings in a variety of clientele. "I'd go nutty if it was the same 10 drunks—regulars—every night," he says. "One night it could be a nice relaxing Celtic show and the next be balls to the wall." Many up-and-coming bands play Stache's just months, or even weeks, before hitting it big. Nirvana played the club in October, 1991, two weeks after releasing *Nevermind*. A month later, *Nevermind* was rocketing up the charts and the band was ready to tour large arenas.

Stache's is not a big place. A lead singer with good trajectory could spit from the stage and hit most of the patrons. It looks well-populated when 50 people are inside, though up to 300 will squeeze in on a good night. There's a black and gold bar (Dougan's a Pittsburgh Pirates fan) with about 15 stools, a dozen tables big enough to seat four, two pool tables in the back corner, a small open area in front of the stage, 10-foot ceilings and not much else. "People hear so much about this place. Then they come here and say, 'That's it?' " Dougan says. "Yep, that's it."

Stache's is far from sterile. Since buying the bar close to five years ago, Dougan has upgraded the sound system, reinforced the floor and resurfaced the bar. But he's the first to admit aesthetics and housekeeping aren't a top priority. Tables sit on uneven legs. Furniture is hodgepodge. Reinserting a contact lens after dropping it on the floor is not recommended. "Just trying to keep the bathrooms operating is a job and a half," he says.

But the grungy atmosphere is forgotten when a band takes the stage. With the volume cranked up and the musicians playing almost in the audience's lap, even the opening acts captivate the crowd.

When the band isn't playing, there's always arguing with the music know-it-alls who frequent the club or looking at the stuff behind the bar. An ever-growing collection of newspaper clippings, dolls, hand-made signs, photographs and knickknacks tells hundreds of stories, and inside jokes. There's everything from a jaguar mask to a John Wayne Gacy clown painting. "It annoys the heck out of some people," Dougan says. A framed photograph of a bartender's parents, given by them to the bartender for Christmas, hangs not far from a framed Roberto Clemente collage (told you Dougan likes the Pirates).

At the center of it all is a clock that's difficult to read even when a patron is sober because it runs counterclockwise. It isn't set on the right time, anyway. "I don't know why I put that up there," Dougan says. "Like it's not hard enough to get people out of this place after a show."

Owner Dan Dougan behind the bar at Stache's.

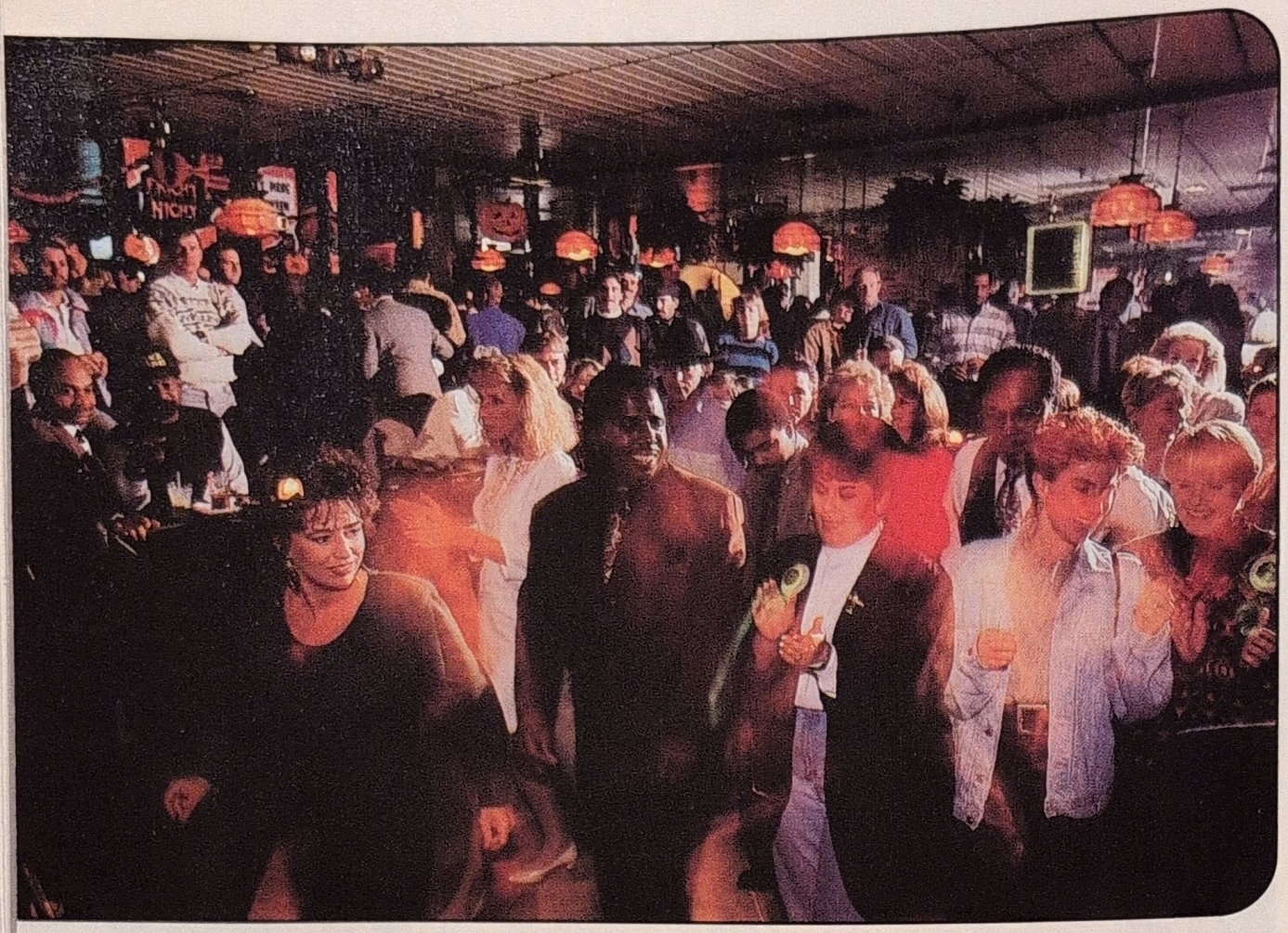
Sylvia's Back Door Lounge

"Look at where his hands are *now*," a young bargoer exclaims as she watches a man who has continuously pawed his female partner at a nearby table. "Oh, I can't watch any longer."

The public display of affection—not an unusual occurrence at Sylvia's Back Door Lounge—ends for the moment as the middle-aged man coaxes the slightly younger woman onto the dance floor as Billy Ocean's mid-'80s smash "Caribbean Queen" begins piping through the stack of speakers.

It's still early on a September Thursday night, and it's the young bargoer's first visit to Sylvia's, which is tucked into the rear of the Worthington

"Stache's is not a big place. A lead singer with good trajectory could spit from the stage and hit most of the patrons."



A packed house at Sylvia's Back Door Lounge.

Reincarnations: Future inductees?

Skankland

Columbus's only reggae bar is expected to return this month in its new Short North-area High Street digs.

City Lights

It's supposed to reopen soon under a yet-to-be-decided-upon name. Will it still attract the nightlifers downtown?

Papa Jack's

The downtown urban dance club mainstay changed its name to Riviera in late August.

Square Shopping Center. Sylvia's, as her regulars know, has become a renowned nightspot among white-collar types in the far north end during the past decade.

Veteran bartender Sylvia Estell, who formerly slung drinks at spots such as Schmidt's and the Wine Cellar, took over the old Back Door lounge in early 1983 and quickly established a core of loyal regulars. Those folks have helped Sylvia's leader-of-the-pack status—locally *and* nationally—in the annual Ugly Bartender Contest that benefits the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

The bar also has built a reputation as a singles-and-mingles place for the lonely-hearted, middle-aged set.

Sylvia's is split into two sections. There's the sit-down bar area by the front entrance where the regulars down their drinks of choice and dish the dirt with the chatty bartenders, including Sylvia herself. Then there's the sunken dance floor area that's surrounded by plenty of tables and chairs. The deejay booth sits overlooking the floor. Bargoers will hear oldies—of the Beatles variety as well as of the Vanilla Ice variety.

While the place isn't on the cutting edge of décor—there are plenty of mirrors, brass and ferns (we counted six ferns by the dance floor)—none of the 35-and-up crowd of regulars flock to Sylvia's for the surroundings. They're there to drink, fraternize and check out the action. Everyone seems to enjoy these activities: On two recent visits, we didn't spot even one Gloomy Gus. That's a rarity these days.

The bargoers look as if they're at a wedding reception; everyone remains mostly dressed up. On the Thursday night visit, we estimated that 70 of the 80 men were wearing ties. To them, dressing down means taking off the suit jacket after work.

There was the man in his 50s, wearing a too-tight collar that made his head look particularly large, who worked the room like the favorite uncle, telling jokes and squeezing palms. A woman, you figure she's the gossipy aunt, gestured repeatedly while recounting something about her nephew to a table with an all-too-interested audience. Only white cake was missing.

And has anyone seen the bride and groom? Or is that couple now dancing to Billy Ocean?

Victory's

What is it with Victory's?

The German Village bar is embraced by some, utterly scorned by others. It's a fun, casual place, says one. A yuppie pickup spot, says another. No one who's been there is neutral.

On the surface, Victory's feels like a displaced, upscale campus bar. There's lots of brick and wood, three bars, three big rooms, the sporting event *du jour* on TV screens, and, in the summer months, a patio. Though Victory's can get extremely crowded—it's a stand-around-and-scope bar—at least it's roomy. People can sift from the main bar, where most of the oglin takes place, to the more intimate and rustic side bars. Large windows give the place an airy, open feel.

After work, especially on Fridays, businesswomen in crisp skirts and businessmen with clean-cut moussed tops hit Victory's, starting their weekend with bottles of Bud and Coors Light.

They talk with friends and co-workers, with an eye on people coming in the door. They shoot baskets (usually men, to impress the women) in the automated basketball machine. When live bands aren't on stage, a deejay spins the tunes, mainly classic rock or Top 40.

But underneath the lively chatter and the constant action, Victory's is still, at heart, a place to scope. The men stare down the women, the women steal glances at the men.

Owner Richard Dick talks about the varied crowd: "There are a lot of attorneys, businessmen, some bike people. That's in the daytime. Like anyplace, the closer you get to closing time, the younger the crowd is." The 30- and 40-year-old set thins out as the more collegiate (or collegiate-looking) crowd descends on Victory's later in the evening, especially on weekends.

The students who go to Victory's are tired of dirty campus bars, Dick says. And Victory's is affordable, with cheap drinks and small cover charges for bands on weekends.

Dick says his bar, which opened in 1984, has paved the way and set the tone for the other Brewery District bars. For whatever reason, a lot of people still choose Victory's over some of the nearby establishments.

Dick knows he's offering something the others aren't. After all, he says, "We're not the only ones that sell Bud Light beer."

Zeno's

On a typical weekend night, Zeno's feels like a subway car at rush hour. People stand shoulder to shoulder, shifting a little to make room when someone needs to get to the bar, or when a waitress, tray high above head, makes her way to a table.

"I'm going to fall asleep standing here," says one bargoer. The smart ones have arrived early enough to find a seat.

White-bread early twentysomethings, garbed in baseball caps, sweatshirts and cable knit, pack the corner pub. These are Luke Perry wannabes. Well-coiffed women. Buffett youth searching for a good time.

Owner Dick Allen, who opened the Victorian Village bar in 1984, says the dance floor helps bring them in. Complete with colored lights and a disco ball, the tiny dance area seems a bit out of place among the oak booths, brass rails and Irish-themed décor.

The deejay spins oldies—Jackson Five, the Doobie Brothers, "The Twist"—plus some Top 40 tunes and progressive classics. "We have a real good sound system," Allen says. "Girls like to dance, and where girls go, guys will follow."

On busy nights, the cranked-up music and loud bar chatter can make a prolonged conversation impossible. So, maybe for lack of other options, the patrons spend most of their time watching each other. Ever feel like someone's watching you? At Zeno's, someone probably is.

The clientele, says Allen, changes during the day and week.

"At lunch we get a lot of people from Battelle, white-collar workers," he says. "We get kind of the same kind of crowd for happy hour." Now and then a local from the neighborhood drops in.

Tuesday is the big night out for the graduate dental students (from the nearby OSU dental clinic) and the "Statehouse crowd," Allen says. "They like to get together with their buddies. Tuesday is real busy considering most places in Columbus are slow that night."

The crowd grows younger Thursdays through Saturdays, especially later in the evening. OSU students like it, although, Allen says, the bar is "real stringent on IDs."

The students, he adds, "want to get away from the buckets at Papa Joe's. We hardly have any damage in here. No fights or bathroom brawls."

And so the pub remains steadfastly popular, despite a difficult parking situation and a somewhat unsavory neighborhood. It has outlasted two nearby establishments: The Avenue, which burned down, and Nonni's, which closed.

Zeno's always has been a clean, friendly, harmless place. The mood is usually cheerful and upbeat.

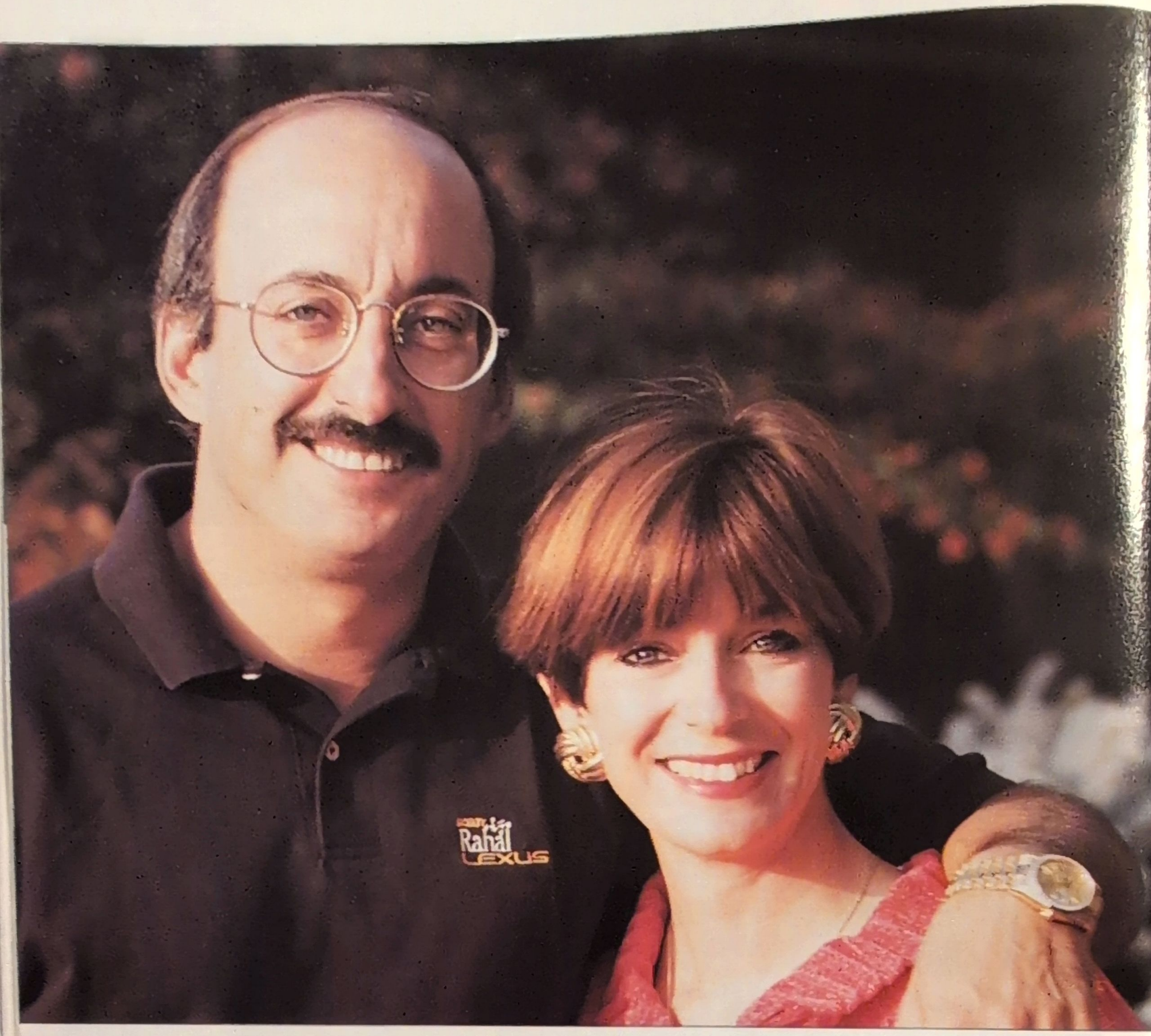
But on the busiest nights, the bargoers so often look vaguely bored. Maybe they're just drained. It can be exhausting trying politely to shove your way from one end of Zeno's to the other.

Are these people really having fun?

They *must* be. They keep coming back. ■

John Elsasser is a staff writer for Columbus Monthly*; Karen Simonian is a staff writer for* The Other Paper*, and Erik Battenberg is a staff writer for Suburban News Publications.*

The dance floor at Zeno's.



Bobby and Debi Rahal at their Muirfield home.

Bobby Rahal's return to his roots

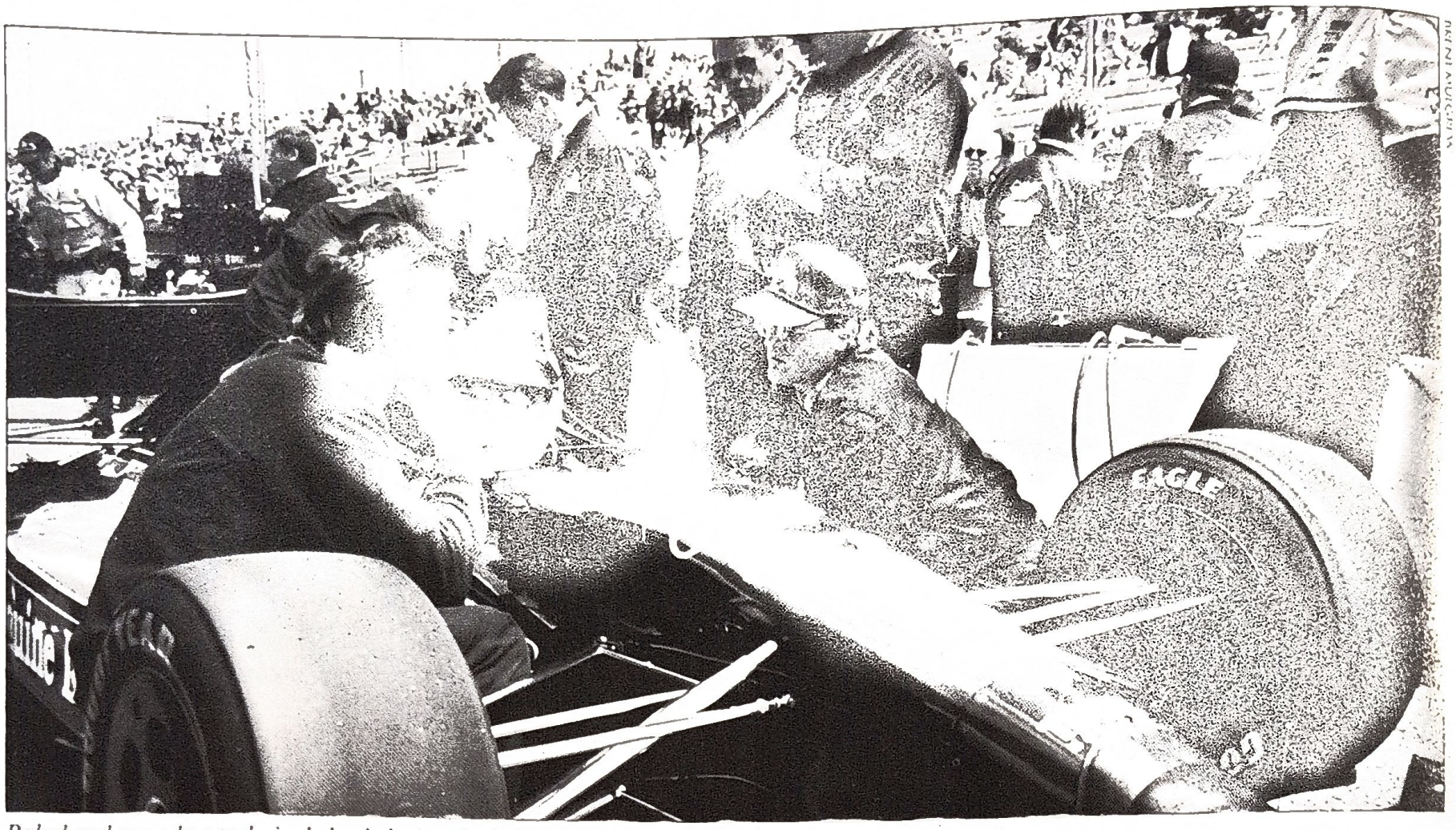
Just off his third championship season, he's coming back to Columbus—and bringing his own race team with him.

By Susan Weiss Mulgrew

Tom Gloy likes to tell this story about Bobby Rahal. Both are race team owners and drivers, and they've been friends for nearly 20 years, so it's not surprising that after Rahal won the Indianapolis 500 in 1986, Gloy wanted to send him a congratulatory gift.

Gloy combed through hundreds of old racing photos and finally found the one he considered perfect—a black and white from the mid '70s showing Rahal and Gloy screaming toward a distant finish line—but with *Gloy* nosing ahead to take the checkered flag. Gloy had the grainy shot blown up larger than poster size and sent it with a humorous note to remind Rahal that he'd not always finished number one.

When Gloy visited Rahal's Muirfield home a year or so later, he didn't see that poster displayed anywhere among Rahal's racing memorabilia,



Rahal and crew do a technical check during the Indy 500 time trials in May.

and he kidded Rahal unmercifully about never wanting to be reminded of second-place finishes—even by old friends. Gloy laughs, and says with the warmth that comes from knowing someone very well: "That's because Bobby Rahal always thinks of himself as a winner."

When you're interviewed constantly as Rahal is, there's not much about your life that isn't known. Those who know him best say he's a great golfer, a devoted dad, honest, intelligent, egotistical. It's that ego thing that speaks to the determination to win. Fellow driver Al Unser Jr. says it's only an "average" ego—for a race car driver. Small egos don't get into small chassis over big engines and go 220 mph. Leo Mehl, director of Worldwide Racing for Goodyear, says Rahal is convinced he can beat anybody out there.

Rahal himself says people who don't know him well would be surprised to learn two things—one is that he has a great sense of humor and the other is that there are few people in the world who are more competitive than he is. "I have a lot of fire in the gut and a tremendous need to prove it."

Today, Rahal is at the top of American auto racing. His commitment to what he calls "getting the job done" was never more visible than in the 1992 race season.

At midyear, Rahal was leading the Championship Auto Racing Teams (CART) points standings by a commanding 31 points. Then, trouble: He didn't finish the races at Mid-Ohio and Vancouver and received no points for either outing. That allowed his strongest competitors, Michael Andretti and Al Unser Jr., to come within striking distance. Rahal needed a 21-point win at Nazareth; he got it.

That meant both Unser and Andretti had to win the last race of the season at Laguna Seca in California to have a shot at the title. And even so, if Rahal finished fourth or better, he'd have enough points to clinch his third season championship. In a two-hour race with 27 cars on the track, when something as small as a lost screw or a cut tire can put a car out of the race in an instant, the pressure just to finish is tremendous.

Rahal's car didn't run perfectly, but he finished in third place, good enough to overcome Andretti's win and put Rahal ahead in the season standings by four points. Finishing that well in the last race—getting the job done—meant a $1 million bonus for his team.

Put the emphasis in that sentence on the word "his." This is the first year he's owned his own race team; St. Louis businessman Carl Hogan is his partner. Rahal-Hogan's winning the championship in its first season is an almost unprecedented feat—only A.J. Foyt has done it, in the mid '70s.

And now Rahal is bringing his team to Columbus, back to where it all started for him. For the first time since he left Truesports in 1987, his personal and professional homes will be located here once again.

In December, Rahal-Hogan is moving its team headquarters from the current location in Indianapolis to the Hilliard building that a rookie named Rahal helped to conceive with his sponsor and mentor, the late Jim Trueman, founder of Red Roof Inns. That state-of-the-art motor shop was a part of Trueman's dream that turned into a team called Truesports. Founded a decade ago, it became one of the most successful race teams of the era and catapulted Bobby Rahal into the racing record books.

Truesports Racing is no more—it ceased operations at the end of the 1992 season. Instead, Rahal-Hogan will be this city's biggest connection to motor sports. Some see a certain symmetry—that Rahal is back where he started, friendly with the Trueman family once again, and in the building where his talent blossomed.

For his first seven years in Indy cars (those open-wheeled racers that are the fastest, most advanced designs in American racing), Rahal's life was centered around Truesports, the team many say Jim Trueman founded to showcase Rahal's talents. Rahal disagrees with that assessment. He says Trueman founded Truesports because he wanted to own a race team, but Rahal concedes Trueman wanted him to be a big part of it. Rahal smiles as he reminisces about how it was put to him: " 'Bobby, I want you to do this, but there are other guys out there who want to do this, too, so I want you to agree to everything I say'—and I said, 'OK'!" Rahal says Trueman really wasn't that dictatorial and wouldn't have held him to it—"But that was Jim's way of making sure you understood that racing was a partnership."

And what a partnership it was. Leo Mehl of Goodyear says he remembers Trueman and Rahal as quite a pair—always working, always hustling him out of

tires and sponsorship dollars. He liked both of them because they were risk-takers, and he could always count on them to do the extraordinary. When Goodyear was ready to test its first racing radial tire, an idea that would change the tire business forever, Mehl called Trueman and Rahal because he knew they'd try almost anything and he'd get solid feedback.

Truesports rolled along, winning races and picking up championship points along with new sponsors. The team grew, the headquarters facility in Hilliard was built, and Rahal solidified his image as a talented, dependable driver.

Then the unthinkable happened: Jim Trueman was diagnosed with terminal cancer. The pressure was on for Truesports to fulfill the founder's lifelong dream—a trip to the Winners Circle at the Indianapolis 500. Rahal and the team did win, decisively. Eleven days later, Trueman was dead. Rahal describes that day as the lowest low of his career.

Rahal's wife, Debi, remembers that two weeks in June of 1986 as the most difficult period of their lives, an emotional roller coaster. The win at Indy, their move into their first real home in Dublin and the birth of their first child all happened at the same time as Trueman's death.

Truesports continued to win races. Steve Horne, who had worked with Trueman and Rahal primarily in technical capacities, stepped up to run the daily operations as co-owner of the team when Barbara Trueman offered him a 25 percent interest. Back-to-back season championships in 1986 and 1987 propelled Truesports to the top.

Yet without Jim Trueman to serve as a buffer for all the egos and ideas at Truesports, the team was coming off track. In his contract negotiations for 1988, Rahal wanted two specific things: a Chevrolet engine under the Budweiser/Red Roof chassis and a guaranteed $1 million salary. Fresh off two very successful seasons, he thought he needed the Chevrolet engine to be competitive and that he deserved the million-dollar guarantee.

Horne doesn't dispute either idea. He says he would have loved to pay Rahal the big bucks and use the Chevrolet engine, but major sponsor Budweiser and Barbara Trueman were unwilling to pick up the tab. At that time, much was made of the idea that Truesports would develop its own engine, but that choice was made only after it was determined that the premier Chevrolet engines were not in the budget. And as for the salary request, Rahal heard the words from Horne and Trueman that the master-of-finding-money Jim Trueman never uttered: "We can't afford it."

So Rahal made the decision to leave Truesports and go to California-based KRACO Racing, owned by Maury Kraines, reportedly for the million dollars he asked. Debi Rahal says no one really knows how difficult it was for Bobby to leave Truesports. He would sit outside in the dark for hours just thinking, and even went through the elementary exercise of writing down the pros and cons on a legal pad.

Barbara Trueman took the departure personally. While those involved spoke to the press in platitudes—"time for a change"; "a good career move"; "This is best for all"—there was no mistaking that there were hurt feelings in the Trueman family, among both Barbara and her children.

There also was surprise in racing circles. Gloy, the person Rahal says knows him best in the world both on and off the track, says even he was surprised at Rahal's decision.

For the next four years, change became the only constant in Rahal's life. Not long after he signed on with KRACO, the team merged with Rick Galles's team to become Galles/ KRACO, and suddenly Rahal was part of a two-car effort. Sharing the spotlight with co-driver Al Unser Jr. was not an idea he relished.

The pair lasted through two seasons, but when Rahal departed for Patrick Racing, there were lots of lines in the auto press intimating that the two couldn't get along. Both deny it was a personality issue.

Says Rahal: "Al and I get along great. We're good buddies. If I ever decide to retire, he's the guy I'd want to drive my car. He's one hell-uva driver. He can't qualify, but he *can* race. He screws around all weekend and miraculously it comes together on Sunday and off he goes. He's a tremendous driver, and maybe one day. . . ."

Says Unser: "Bobby is my closest friend on the Indy car circuit." Of the auto press stories, Unser says a better explanation would have been that he doesn't like being on a two-car team with anyone, including Rahal or his current co-driver Danny Sullivan. "I would rather be on a single-car team. Bobby was my first real teammate, and I don't like sharing my secrets or my stuff with a great race car driver who is capable of outrunning me."

Unser says that he and Galles have the same close personal relationship as Rahal and Trueman had, and it may have been difficult for Rahal to see that every day.

For Rahal, it probably went a little deeper than that. Unser had been with Rick Galles for a long time, and it didn't take Rahal more than a few races to realize there was only going to be one number-one driver on the team, and he wasn't it. There was a perception around the tracks that he was the number-two driver, and, "I didn't like being number two," he says candidly.

The situation was exacerbated by the fact that Unser beat Rahal several times during the season and took the CART championship in 1990. Rahal was on the longest winless streak of his career. In 31 races, he didn't have a single first-place finish from July 16, 1989, to July 14, 1991. Five second-place finishes in 1990 alone, including one at Indy, reinforced his second-place status.

It was time to make a move. Toward the end of the 1991 season, Pat Patrick, a 20-year veteran of Indy cars, offered Rahal a ride for 1992 and Rahal signed on. That wasn't the only offer Rahal received in 1991; what few people know is that Barbara Trueman phoned Rahal and asked him to come back and drive for Truesports. She was just a bit too late—Rahal had just inked a one-year deal with Patrick shortly before her call.

Yet all was not running smoothly at Patrick, either. Patrick had been piloting a program for Alfa Romeo, but wanted to switch to Chevrolet engines. In what turned out to be a nasty, lawsuit-ridden scuffle because Patrick had secretly "shared" a Chevy engine with Alfa, use of the Chevrolet engine was denied to the Patrick team, leaving him without engines for the next season. For the future of his team, for the newly signed Rahal, and to preserve his sponsor relationship with Miller Genuine Draft, Patrick asked Rahal to buy the team.

"Hogan and Rahal became 50-50 partners in an effort Rahal describes as 'an October-to-December full-court press. It was a difficult time, and no one knows how hard I worked.' "

That was a very different kind of deal from signing a driver's contract. Although Rahal always had wanted to own a team, it hadn't been part of his long-term plan until 1993 at the earliest, and he needed a business partner to share the financial and time commitments. There were only two people he considered; one was St. Louis-based businessman Carl Hogan, who'd been out of Indy car racing for a while, but who had expressed a desire to become involved again if the right opportunity came along.

Hogan and Rahal became 50-50 partners in an effort Rahal describes as "an October-to-December full-court press. It was a difficult time, and no one knows how hard I worked." Everything needed to fall into place at the right time, and it

MIKE MERRIMAN/RYCUS ASSOC.

The hometown celebrity: Rahal was parade marshall at this year's Ohio State Fair.

did. Hogan brought in the money to buy the hard assets of Patrick's team, and Rahal brought his ability as a driver and what both friends and critics alike say is his strongest suit, the ability to woo and win sponsors. Miller Genuine Draft committed to Rahal-Hogan for a five-year contract that racing insiders say is almost unprecedented in length and dollar value. Thus, when Rahal took to the track this spring, he'd moved from Truesports' rookie driver to team owner in 11 seasons.

Meanwhile, Truesports was undergoing changes that soon would have an impact on the Rahal-Hogan team. After Rahal's departure, Truesports embarked upon a program to build its own "Made in America" car. Truesports developed the Judd engine, but after three years and millions of dollars, the engine simply didn't produce enough power to be competitive and was dropped in 1991.

The Truesports chassis was much more successful (so successful that Rahal will use it in 1993) and generated a lot of good press for the team, but the bottom line was that Truesports wasn't winning races, and there were rampant rumors that Budweiser planned to withdraw its major sponsor dollars. Lack of money for track testing was a problem, too.

Finally, after the Indianapolis 500, when the Truesports car didn't finish the race, Barbara Trueman exercised her majority ownership position and told Steve Horne they no longer could afford to build their own cars. Horne resigned over the decision, only four races into the 1992 season. Trueman was shocked; she asked Horne to reconsider, and gave him a chance to come back to the team. He declined. Horne says he made her a "legitimate offer" to buy Truesports, but she declined. Trueman announced in August that she would shut down Truesports for good, effective at the end of the 1992 season.

During the summer, it became known that Rahal-Hogan planned to build a new headquarters building in Indianapolis. The Patrick team had been based there, and the families of the team members were settled there. An architect was working on the plans for the building when Rahal received what he describes as an "unexpected" phone call from Trueman.

She told him of her plans to close Truesports, and said she wanted to talk about his buying or leasing the Truesports building. Rahal recalls that Trueman said she intended to make him an offer he couldn't refuse. He didn't.

Did Trueman decide to shut down Truesports before or after she knew Rahal would lease the facility? She's not telling. "I knew he was getting ready to build his own shop, and I knew I was getting ready to shut mine down," she says. "One night I was sitting there thinking about all these things, and I thought: If I let an opportunity pass me by again this time, I'm *stupid*. This makes real business sense."

And about that split: If Trueman had offered Rahal ownership in Truesports years ago, would he have stayed? "I don't know," Rahal says. "It would have depended on the deal, wouldn't it? But if she'd said here's 25 percent for no money [which was what she offered Horne], why not?"

Says Trueman: "Why didn't I make Bobby an owner? It never occurred to me. I was fairly naive, businesswise, and not experienced at all. In my own mind, I didn't perceive how that might appear to somebody like Bobby. As I look back on it now, it was probably a little insulting."

Rahal does admit now (which he wouldn't for a long time) that if Jim Trueman had lived, he probably would not have left Truesports. "I've always had a strong relationship with the Trueman family, but Barbara took it very hard when I left—I think she had a lot of bad advice. I was never happy that she took it so personally, because my departure was never meant personally—I just didn't think I fit professionally with Truesports at that time," he says.

"I had always been on very good terms with the Trueman children [Collin, Megan and Michelle], and having had such a long relationship with the Trueman family, it had been kind of hard the last three or four years," Rahal says. "I'm glad things have come back full circle and that Barbara and I are involved again, both professionally and personally."

Says Trueman: "I have always felt about Bobby like he was one of my own children, because I've known him since he was a very young man. I've watched him mature as both a person and a driver. I feel it's like having one of your children who has gone off, rather disillusioned with you as a parent, and come back again. It's a great feeling, it really is."

Robert Woodward Rahal credits his own parent, Michael Rahal, with getting him started in racing. Bobby was born in Medina in 1953 and grew up in Glen Ellyn, Illinois, where one of his closest friends was Jim Prescott. Prescott—who began working with Rahal at Truesports and is now his crew chief—used to watch Bobby and his father go racing together.

The senior Rahal was a talented amateur who taught Bobby about cars and racing and allowed him to enter his first race underage at 17. Even though racing was a passion for both, Rahal's dad insisted he attend college. A history major, Bobby graduated from Denison University in 1975, racing part-time all the way through. For five months in 1976 he didn't want to be a race car driver, and joined a Chicago ad agency, but it didn't last—racing was in his blood. By 1980, he'd become really close to his dad's old racing buddy Jim Trueman, a fateful alliance from which a star would be born.

That was the year for another alliance: He and Debi were married. Today, she says it's hard to think of her husband as fa-

mous—they try to keep their lives as "normal" as possible, but, "Private time is very scarce."

Being married to a race car driver is not constant glamour. The race schedule itself involves traveling to 16 different race sites from Australia to Toronto, and Rahal is away from home for at least a week surrounding each event. Then there's the time spent testing the cars, and the month living in Indianapolis in preparation for the 500. Add to that the dinners and personal appearances that are command performances for the sponsors, and there's little time left for home and family.

"He's been unbelievably lucky in that he's never had an accident involving serious injury. He says he never—never—thinks about it."

"It's lonely," she says. "I'm resentful of the fact that my friends are going out to dinner and doing things as couples and they'll say, 'Go here, go there,' but you get tired of going places by yourself, so I've developed my own life and my own friends. I'm married—but sometimes without feeling like I'm married."

She does have a lot of outside interests, many of which don't revolve around Rahal. She's been on safari three times, and works with five local charities that benefit children and animals, her special loves. During nonrace weeks, she spends her time caring for their four children—two boys, two girls, all under 6.

But when it's time to race, she wants to be part of the crew. Bobby Rahal says she's not calm about racing—"She's a real Little League mother." They usually try to take at least one child with them to every race, and frequently they take two. They try to dedicate the Saturday night before the race to family and crew—often Debi prepares "a casual dinner for 40," and they try to unwind before race day, a tradition started by Jim Trueman years ago.

Barbecue around the team's motor home is one part of the life; then there's the celebrity side. On race weekends, drivers are invited to black-tie, star-studded dinners and fund-raisers in nearly every city. While Rahal sometimes rolls his eyes and wonders why they're there, Debi admits she often finds it fun.

"There is a certain power to it, but that's the good thing about living in Columbus," she says. "People here don't let you get away with it. They make you feel special, but everyone is pretty down to earth here. If you live in Aspen or some of the other cities where drivers live, you could really become full of yourself. Bobby isn't."

Around the track, they call Rahal "The Accountant," at least partly because he wears thick glasses and is losing his hair. He doesn't have the immediately appealing good looks of Danny Sullivan or the bad-little-boy smile of Al Unser Jr.—and yet, the sponsors love him. They've discovered that Rahal can do more, much more, than drive a race car. He's a complete package.

"Having a boy-next-door image doesn't diminish what you do," Rahal says. "Our image works with Corporate America because we are a business, we are reliable, we work hard. It's not what you appear to be, it's what you deliver."

Friends and critics alike say he feels as comfortable in board rooms as he does in the pits. He loves to convince CEOs that racing fits into their marketing plans. He

Nostalgia

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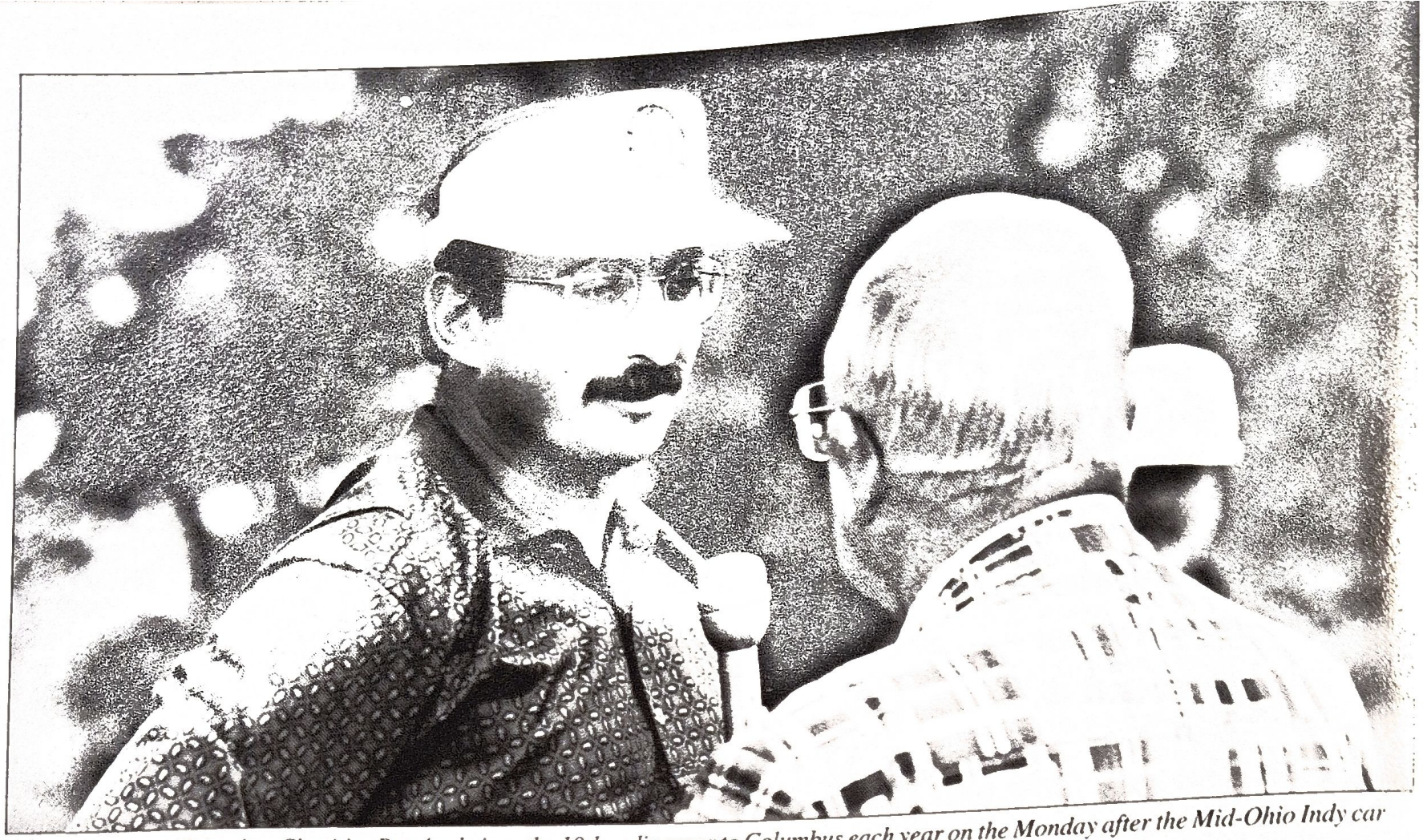

The Bobby Rahal Columbus Charities Pro-Am brings the 10-handicapper to Columbus each year on the Monday after the Mid-Ohio Indy car race. Here, Rahal is interviewed by sportscaster Jimmy Crum at the '92 Pro-Am.

spends an enormous amount of his off-track time schmoozing sponsors and making speeches. And he's good at that—very good. Many drivers don't like that part of racing and simply refuse to do it. Rahal comments, "Most drivers are basically lazy. They just want to drive and see all the rest happen."

Mehl says that if drivers like Mario Andretti and A.J. Foyt had had the personal demands placed on them that drivers do today, most wouldn't have made it. "Rahal doesn't fit the old mold of a race car driver, but he does fit the new. There's nobody else at the top of racing who's made this kind of commitment as an owner/driver/manager."

Gloy says, "Rahal has been good for the sport, because he dispels the stereotype of the motorhead in a greasy T-shirt and hat. He's very businesslike."

Perhaps that's another reason they call him "The Accountant." He's first to admit he has no desire to make driving his entire life—an almost sacrilegious statement around the track. He owns a Lexus dealership in Dayton (1991 sales were $14 million) and three dealerships in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania (Honda, Lexus, Toyota-Oldsmobile). "I started the dealerships because I do not want my future to be dependent on just racing," he says.

Many racing insiders have commented that buying a race team might be the 39-year-old's transition out of driving. Rahal says it isn't true. He's signed a five-year deal with Miller, and, "The driver is me—or someone they would approve—but I expect it to be me."

"I still have the drive and desire and will to win, and as long as those things are there and the sacrifices and risks are acceptable—and I'm successful—I'll continue to drive. As soon as any one of those things doesn't exist, I hope I have the brains to get out."

Asked about those risks, Rahal pushes back from his desk, dons a blank expression, and gets very quiet. He's been unbelievably lucky in that he's never had an accident involving serious injury. He says he never—never—thinks about it. "I use my head. Top drivers don't have accidents, they have incidents."

Former driver Gloy says if racers didn't believe they were accident proof, they'd never get in a car. And yet, Gloy says of his friend: "I have been for a few years now wishing that he would quit. That's my opinion only because I'm a friend. Bobby does all these deals so well—he keeps building things in, making himself a part of what he does. I worry about him, and I don't want anything to happen to him."

The future: Rahal already has locked in enough sponsor dollars to put his Rahal-Hogan team on solid financial footing for the next three years. One of the major sponsors is Red Roof Inns. The $750,000 per year sponsor package is the same one Barbara Trueman previously had given her own Truesports team. He says he plans to try to incorporate in his team all of the good things he learned from father figure, friend and teacher Jim Trueman.

The major rumor about Rahal concerns Honda, which is leaving Formula One and may come to CART with engines and sponsorship dollars. No formal announcement has been made, and Rahal insists the company hasn't talked with him, but Rahal is a Honda dealer whose racing headquarters now are located just down the road from Honda's substantial plant in Marysville. . . .

Those who follow auto racing say that Michael Andretti may be the driver of the '90s because of his youth and his desire to conquer the sport at every level, but Rahal is the competitor of the '90s, because he seems to be able to do it all—to be an owner/driver/manager and balance his other business interests.

He intends to win more races—specifically, the Indianapolis 500. He wants to join that select group who have won more than once. Leo Mehl, who watches hundreds of drivers from Mid-Ohio to Monaco, says Rahal has driven more aggressively this year than he has in the last 10.

On a personal level, over the next two to three years, he and Debi will be building a house on eight acres in New Albany, a beautiful piece of ground that's wooded, private and perfect for all the animals they want to keep.

But it's unlikely Bobby Rahal will be spending too much time there quite yet. The momentum from this season's success should propel him well into his second decade of racing. And one of his goals is to create the dominant race team of the '90s. ■

Susan Weiss Mulgrew is a former contributing editor of Columbus Monthly *who has written numerous auto-racing stories.*

s t o r y T R U E

The truth is I'm always busy, and I can't

JOS. A. BANK CLOTHIERS

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TALBOTS

mall. You know the kind. You

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waste time and wear yourself

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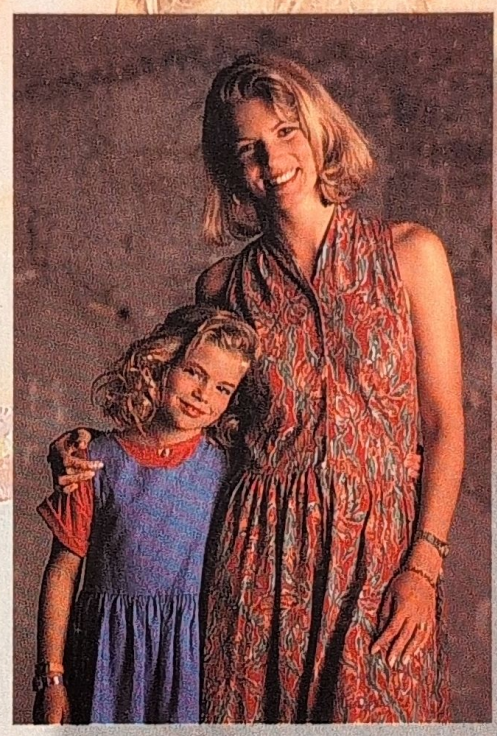

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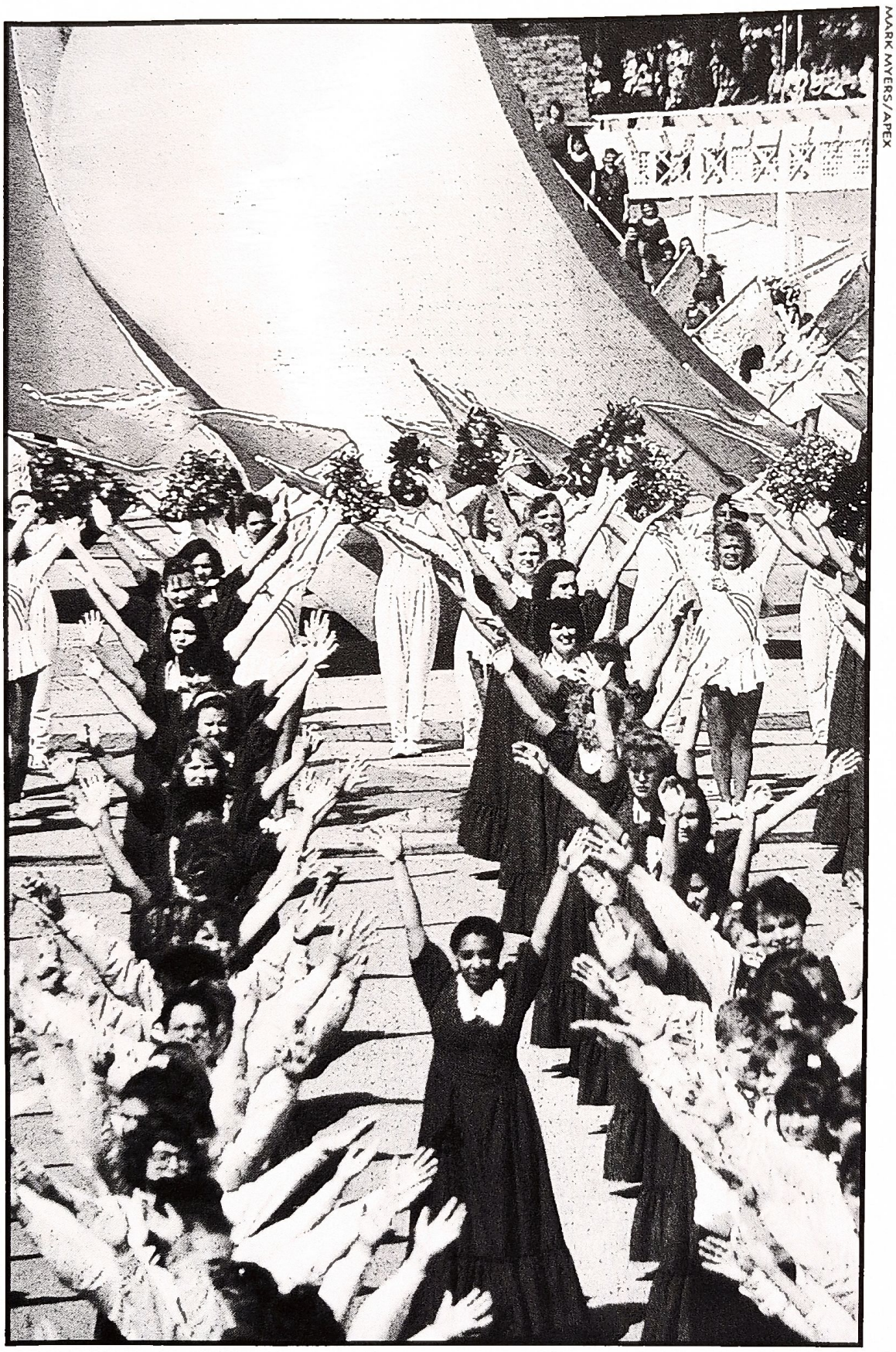
AmeriFlora:

The giant flower show/entertainment festival was seven years in the planning, millions in the building. People came; not enough. A look at the event and its aftermath.



MARK MYERS/APEX

Opening-day ceremonies at AmeriFlora.

By Ray Paprocki

On Oct. 12, AmeriFlora ended with a sigh, looking as limp as impatiens after the first frost. Perhaps it was exhausted from the seven years of

Was it worth it?

MICHAEL BARRIER

Memorabilia buffs line up to pay for their goods at the AmeriFlora auction.

planning and promotion and the six months it spent this year defending itself. The community put the event to rest to the sound of the spin doctors trying to mask the disappointment of what might have been.

There were blips of excitement. George Bush attended the opening ceremony. Bob Hope filmed a television special on-site in Franklin Park. There was the success of the Hot Summer Nights concert series. And there were the hundreds of thousands of tourists who booked the hotel rooms, crammed into restaurants and filled the tax coffers.

And AmeriFlora's best promotional tool, the *Columbus Dispatch*, whose publisher, John F. Wolfe, was also the event's board chairman, did its best to keep the festival front and

of mums, and I have 30 or 40 mums in my back yard that looked as good as what they had."

• **BAD PUBLICITY?** AmeriFlora officials blamed "negative" local and statewide press coverage of its financial trouble for lack of attendance.

One northern Ohio tour bus company said business fell off drastically after the stories broke this summer. But for AmeriFlora to blame the press for poor attendance appeared at best desperate and at worst laughable. To suggest AmeriFlora didn't have press support was stunning, considering it had the backing of the city's most influential medium, the *Dispatch*, publishing multiple puff pieces every day of the event. You couldn't have bought better advertising.

The big picture

AmeriFlora officials and supporters say it is shortsighted to judge AmeriFlora only on attendance figures and red ink. Think of the big picture, they say.

All those tourists spent money here—a shot of economic adrenalin in a sluggish year. The Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce is studying the economic spin-off of AmeriFlora, so figures aren't available. One, though, is in: Compared to the same six months in 1991, the county bed tax increased $1.4 million, according to the Greater Columbus Hotel and Motel Association. State Rep. Otto Beatty, whose district includes Franklin Park, says it was like "having a huge, giant convention."

John Rafael, executive director of the Greater Columbus Hotel and Motel Association, is ecstatic about AmeriFlora. The hotel business is in a major slump nationally, and the event gave the local industry a big boost. He says the occupancy rate in Franklin County was up 25 to 30 percent over a similar time period in 1991.

Dick Meara of the Hyatt on Capitol Square and the Hyatt Regency Columbus called AmeriFlora "a huge success," saying business was 10 percent above projections. Fred Harris of the Holiday Inn at Lane Avenue says the hotel had the second best July in its 20-year history, and September was 34 percent better than in 1991. He adds, without disclosing names, that AmeriFlora kept three to four Columbus hotels from going bankrupt.

Some area restaurants saw increased business, and such attractions as the Columbus Museum of Art, the Columbus Zoo, COSI and German Village all have credited AmeriFlora with helping increase the number of visitors.

City and tourism officials hope that the out-of-towners were impressed enough with Columbus to return in 1993 and beyond. Borbell of Blue and White bus tours says that his company, for the first time, will make Columbus a destination city. As for boosting Columbus as a tourist attraction, AmeriFlora "really was extremely beneficial," says Cindy Lazarus.

There were other benefits. Beatty says AmeriFlora created a lot of jobs, either on-site or in such businesses as hotels and restaurants. "Young people got jobs, the young people who need training," he says. Also, the nursery industry benefited, says Bill Stalter of the Ohio Nurserymen's Association. "You can't help but think that most of those people who went to AmeriFlora will be inspired to do something," he adds.

There is the park itself: Franklin Park, which needed massive repairs in the mid 1980s, has undergone extensive renovation and will be the crown jewel of the city's park system. And the Franklin Park Conservatory is now about three times its original size and should become a major Central Ohio attraction.

Board member McCoy says, "I think when we look back in 10 years, we will say, 'Isn't it amazing what we have in that conservatory, in that park.' "

"To suggest AmeriFlora didn't have press support was stunning, considering it had the backing of the city's most influential medium, the *Dispatch*, publishing multiple puff pieces every day of the event."

The dollar chase Or, missed opportunities

Not everybody was cheerleading for AmeriFlora. A lot of people who invested in the event say they did worse than expected, but overall did, well, OK. Those, among many, include COTA, which supplied bus service; Rusty McClure's Famous Footwear, which held the off-site merchandising contract; and Sebastian's, the Washington-state company that ran on-site restaurants.

For some of the little guys, AmeriFlora wasn't so OK. There's John Brennan, owner of Brennan's Broad-Nel, a bar/restaurant close to Franklin Park. Anticipating increased business, he added staff and built a new awning to cover the outdoor patio; he ended up cutting positions, and the patio was rarely full. He started a breakfast menu, then eliminated it after four months. AmeriFlora customers illegally parked in his lot, tying up spots for regulars, who mistakenly thought the restaurant was crowded. The bar got filled after some of the Hot Summer Nights concerts, but not often enough. He says the biggest hurt, though, was when the city removed softball fields from Wolfe Park in 1990 in prepa ration for AmeriFlora. "I've lost $40,00 to $50,000 a summer in business," he say

Harry Agarwan of Delhi Ivory Palac says the business has participated i world's fairs for 25 years; AmeriFlo "was the worst one since 1967." He say he spent $250,000 to set up his store i Franklin Park, but isn't certain how muc money he lost—only that he lost a lot. H wasn't the only concessionaire on-site t take a hit; other smaller vendors, such a the Korean Boutique, say they suffered.

Gary Wassmuth is marketing directo for Transportation Resources Inc., a nonprofit organization that transports senior citizens and the mentally retarded. It opened a parking lot on the corner of Nelson and Main streets to raise funds during AmeriFlora to buy new wheelchair-accessible vehicles. He says they hoped to house 300 to 400 cars a day; the best day was 30.

Transportation Resources closed the lot halfway through the event. How much money did the company lose? "We lost a lot," says Wassmuth, not wanting to disclose figures. The loss won't impact services immediately, he says, but could in the future if additional funds aren't found. "It was a flop," he says.

The dollar chase, part II

During the middle of AmeriFlora, *Business First* broke a story about liens filed by subcontractors against the event. Attorney Don Gregory, who represented four of the subcontractors, says the pay dispute went public because AmeriFlora ignored his clients' requests for payment. After the liens were filed and the press coverage started, things moved quickly, he says. The matter was resolved, he says, "once the issue got to the highest level of decision making." Gregory says that AmeriFlora paid $2.3 million to the companies that had prepared the site for opening day. There was no explanation given for the late payment. As for the source of the money, he says: "Never asked, never told."

Gregory acknowledges that taking on AmeriFlora and its heavyweight supporters was "a sensitive issue." He says, "I had no interest in doing anything to adversely affect the community, but I had a

job to do in getting the money owed to my clients." He adds, "I am glad that it was concluded in an amicable fashion."

One of the subcontractors was Robert Roach, president of Exco, an excavating firm. He says that the weeks prior to opening day were hectic—working seven days a week, 24 hours a day. "There were a number of different contractors, and they were getting in each other's way." He adds, "There were some terrific tabs for overtime."

Exco, he says, was owed $300,000. When the bill came due, "It was like they dropped off the edge of the world." He says the nonpayment created a hardship for his company. Normally, business is slow during the winter, but with the AmeriFlora contract, he added employees. "I had to meet payroll, each Friday," he says—forcing him to skip payments to his vendors. "The trickle down" effect, he says.

Would he tackle another AmeriFlora? He laughs and says, "Yeah, if I got paid for it up front."

The big guys

The real financial losers are the corporate guarantors, the 14 companies that put up the funds—$38 million—to cover AmeriFlora's losses. None of the guarantors, however, are complaining publicly. Those contacted are biting the bullet, emphasizing that the money spent was an investment in the city.

AmeriFlora's treasurer is Robert McMaster, managing partner of KPMG Peat Marwick accounting firm—one of the corporate guarantors. In late October he said the final figures were not tallied yet. When asked if the losses could exceed the guaranteed pledges, he said no, adding, "I have a good deal of confidence that all the bills will be paid and that no will be back to ask for public money."

The biggest of the big guys in AmeriFlora was John F. Wolfe. AmeriFlora was a coming-out party of sorts for Wolfe, seldom seen in high-profile community leadership roles. (He was hardly high profile at AmeriFlora, however; he rarely spoke publicly, and did not return a phone call for this story.)

And a lot was riding on AmeriFlora for Wolfe, namely his reputation as a community leader. Some would say he now has struck out twice, considering he also ran Son of Heaven, the 1989 Chinese art exhibit that was used as a dry run for AmeriFlora and ended up in controversy over a $1.6 million loss absorbed by taxpayers.

However, he is praised by fellow Titans for his AmeriFlora work. "It is remarkable what he has done," says McCoy. "He and Dick Franks spent, I bet, two hours a day for parts of two years on this. That is a huge, huge commitment of time." He adds, "If I was him, I'd take a year off."

Will Wolfe continue to be a Player on the civic scene, aside from the obvious power he wields as publisher of the city's only daily newspaper? McCoy says yes. "I have every expectation that he will continue to do it."

Post AmeriFlora

Talk surfaced in the summer about extending AmeriFlora beyond its October closing—reopening for a limited time in 1993. *The Other Paper* reported that key AmeriFlora officials considered the extension as an option to reduce its debt. Meanwhile, the hotel and motel people, along with the Greater Columbus Convention and Visitors Bureau, would have liked a mini-AmeriFlora next year to continue the tourism boom. With the new convention center opening in 1993, and the need to have a hook to persuade conventioneers to visit Columbus, the tourist industry here saw an opportunity to keep that bottom-line from plummeting to pre-AmeriFlora levels.

But all the talk resulted in no change in the original promise made to the residents of Franklin Park: to return the park to the public after the event. The city and neighborhood residents are overseeing the final stages of what has been called the residual

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plan—getting Franklin Park ready for its official reopening on March 31.

There are key issues yet to decide, however, including the continuing support from the tourist trade to use Franklin Park as a destination point to sell Columbus to out-of-towners. That concern touches a sensitive spot: the perceived "ownership" of Franklin Park. The city, of course, owns the facility, but the park is a vital part of the predominantly black neighborhood that surrounds it. Some people, including McCoy, want to see how it can benefit the entire city. "We need to make good use of that park," he says, adding, "I may get in trouble for saying this, but I don't think it's a black park, but a city park." Michael Link of the Near East Area Commission says the future use of AmeriFlora is not a racial issue. "We are willing to listen," he says, "but no one ever sat down to discuss anything with us."

Some of the key issues:

• **DISCOVERY PAVILION.** Ohio State University has a large problem. OSU's horticulture department was the beneficiary of two major capital improvements projects as part of the state's $14.7 million funding to AmeriFlora: a bio-containment center and the Discovery Pavilion. The pavilion housed exhibits during AmeriFlora, and then was supposed to be disassembled and reconstructed at OSU.

The problem is money. The state allocated $300,000 for moving expenses, says Jim Ellinger, assistant vice president of OSU's horticulture department. However, Ellinger says the actual cost of tearing down, transporting and rebuilding the structure is a whopping $3 million. Just to disassemble and move it into storage is $750,000.

Ellinger says OSU is legally obligated to take control of the building by May 15. The university—in a severe budget crunch—doesn't have the money. The state also is strapped for cash.

One idea is to leave the 18,000-square-foot Discovery Pavilion in Franklin Park. Some community people want it—one has proposed turning it into an African-American museum. Others don't. Eva Crawley, former Franklin Park Improvement Association president, says, "Its architecture has nothing to do with the park. It was supposed to be temporary and it should remain temporary."

If it does stay, the issue of who would run and maintain it (since it is state property on city land) would have to be resolved.

• **CONSERVATORY.** About the only thing that everyone can agree on about AmeriFlora is the magnificence of the renovated Franklin Park Conservatory. Now the question is what to do with it. That responsibility falls to a newly formed, quasi-governmental agency called the Franklin Park Conservatory Joint Recreation District Board.

It was created after the city, state and county joined efforts to fund the conservatory's renovation. The 10-member board will manage the conservatory and 28 acres of Franklin Park, which includes such remnants of AmeriFlora as the Grand Mallway and the Japanese Garden.

The board, though, is starting from scratch. Acting chairman Doug Mo[illegible] says the group's only funding is an a[illegible] payment from the city of $569,000 fo[illegible] years. One of its first issues to cons[illegible] says Morgan, is collecting reven[illegible] whether to charge admission, hold f[illegible] raisers or open the conservatory to [illegible] outside functions as wedding receptio[illegible]

By late October, the board also ne[illegible] to hire a manager and staff, and eve[illegible] the most basic equipment, such as c[illegible] chairs and shovels, before the conser[illegible] ry reopened (possibly in Decem[illegible] Morgan said. "One of our members i[illegible] ing to the AmeriFlora liquidation sa[illegible] see what he can get."

• **AMPHITHEATRE.** Perhaps the m[illegible] successful element of AmeriFlora was Hot Summer Nights. The performances regularly drew crowds of up to 5,000 people.

Could the amphitheatre continue to host a Hot Summer Nights series in 1993? It's an idea that is being considered. McCoy is certainly for using the amphitheatre in a way that will, again, feature Franklin Park as a draw for conventioneers. "CAPA would love to be a part of that," he says.

CAPA is the Columbus Association for the Performing Arts, which originated, organized and ran the Hot Summer Nights concerts. Doug Kridler, executive director, says recreation and parks director Jim Barney informally has asked him to discuss the future of the amphitheatre.

But Kridler quickly points out that CAPA has no "ownership stake" in the amphitheatre as a venue for CAPA events. "There is no CAPA agenda. It is up to the

MICHAEL BARRIE

Jim Prunty, right, and Albin Alberini cart off an AmeriFlora bench Alberini bought for $300 at the end-of-AmeriFlora auction.

community and the city to set the course. We absolutely have no right to declare we should be involved." Barney says the use of the amphitheatre "is something we would like to explore, along with the neighborhood." Link says the commission would consider ideas "as long as they are not harmful to the area."

Kridler, though, adds, "The danger is in thinking it is an easy transference from this year to next year. There are a whole new set of issues to consider." Among those issues, Barney says, are noise and charging money for an event held at a public facility.

Was it worth it?

The $95 million question about AmeriFlora is this: Was all the time, money and effort worth it? Could the state, city and county have invested taxpayer money more efficiently elsewhere? Could the local corporations have improved the community more by supporting struggling social service agencies or arts groups instead of AmeriFlora? Will Franklin Park residents benefit sufficiently for having their lives disrupted for the past three years?

AmeriFlora officials and supporters, of course, say yes—that the event accomplished such important goals as attracting much-needed attention to the city, and beefing up its economy for 1992. Rep. Otto Beatty says, "What else could the state have done to generate this kind of money for Columbus?"

The real litmus test, though, comes in three to five years, maybe even in a decade. Rack up AmeriFlora as a failure if it wasn't the engine that generated the message that Columbus is the place to book that convention, spend that three-day weekend, locate that new business, create those new jobs. Too many resources were invested for AmeriFlora to be nothing more than a huge block party that many invitees—the people of Central Ohio—didn't bother to attend.

"Ellinger says OSU is legally obligated to take control of the building by May 15. The university—in a severe budget crunch—doesn't have the money."

The corporate support of AmeriFlora clearly didn't help other local organizations. Dorothy Brownley of Huntington National Bank said this summer that the bank's investment in AmeriFlora stymied its ability to contribute this year to area arts organizations strapped for cash. Will those major corporations that floated AmeriFlora with guarantees shrink from future community giving? McCoy of Banc One says no. "We are good givers every year, and we will continue to give. If the scenario is that someone comes in and asks us for funds and we say we can't because of AmeriFlora, that will not happen."

For the Franklin Park residents, their vote on AmeriFlora is probably still out. The park hasn't been reopened yet. Eva Crawley says that if the residual plan is followed, "and it is a truly wonderful facility for all," then the hardships endured were justified.

But she adds, "This park is the heartbeat of the community. If it means it still comes to fighting for a place to be, for the quality we expected . . . if we never feel that sense of belonging that we once had, of what it means for the park to be a part of the community, then it wasn't worth it." ■

Ray Paprocki is a staff writer for Columbus Monthly.

This is Dorothy. She's 48 years old and getting ready to finish her degree in surgical assisting at Columbus State. She says getting started was the hardest part. From then on, it has been "an experience of a lifetime." A lot like raising the kids...but a heck of a lot cheaper. Dorothy says she loves the convenience of evening and weekend classes...almost as much as the small classes and the talented instructors who show a sincere interest in her progress. Dorothy's glad she decided to go to college. And she's glad she chose Columbus State.

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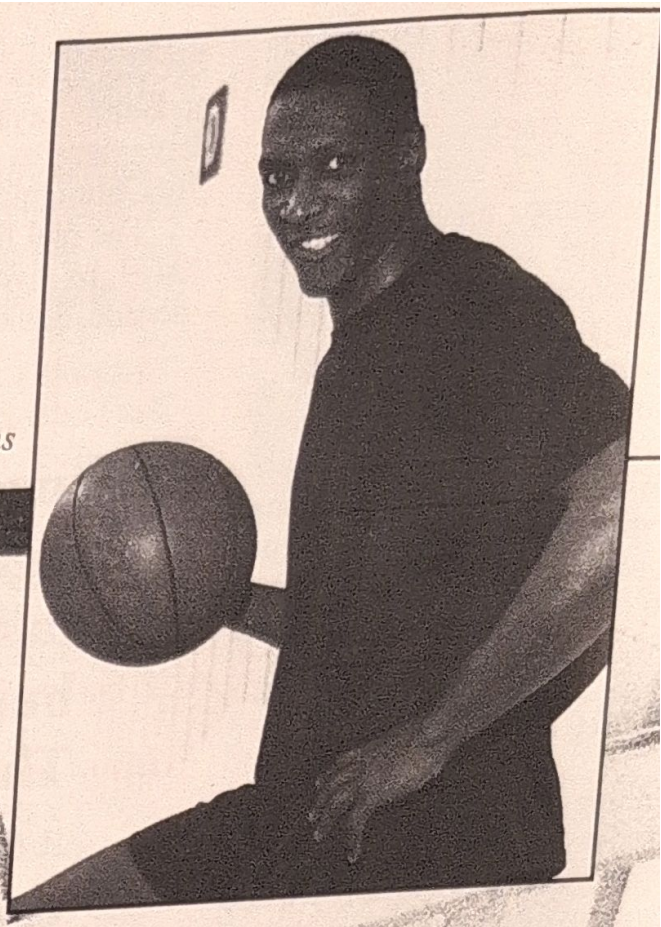
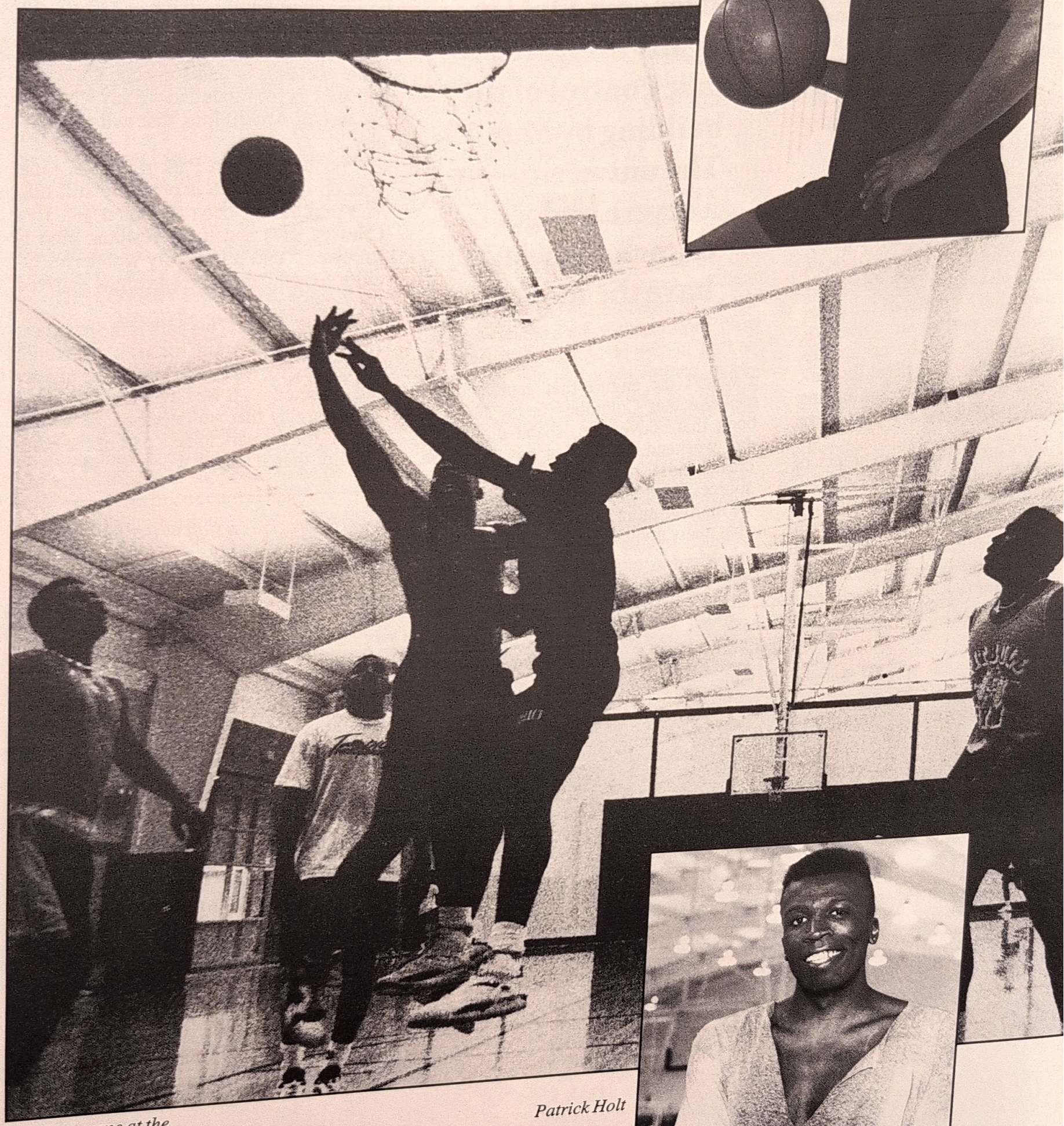
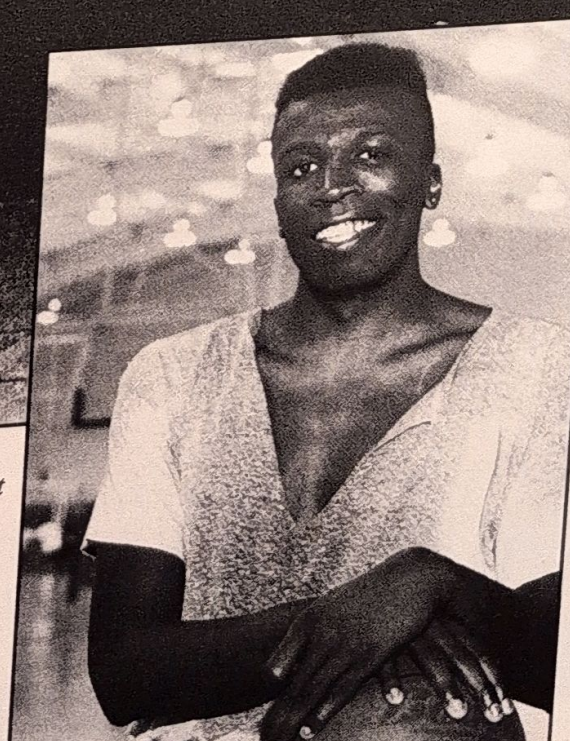


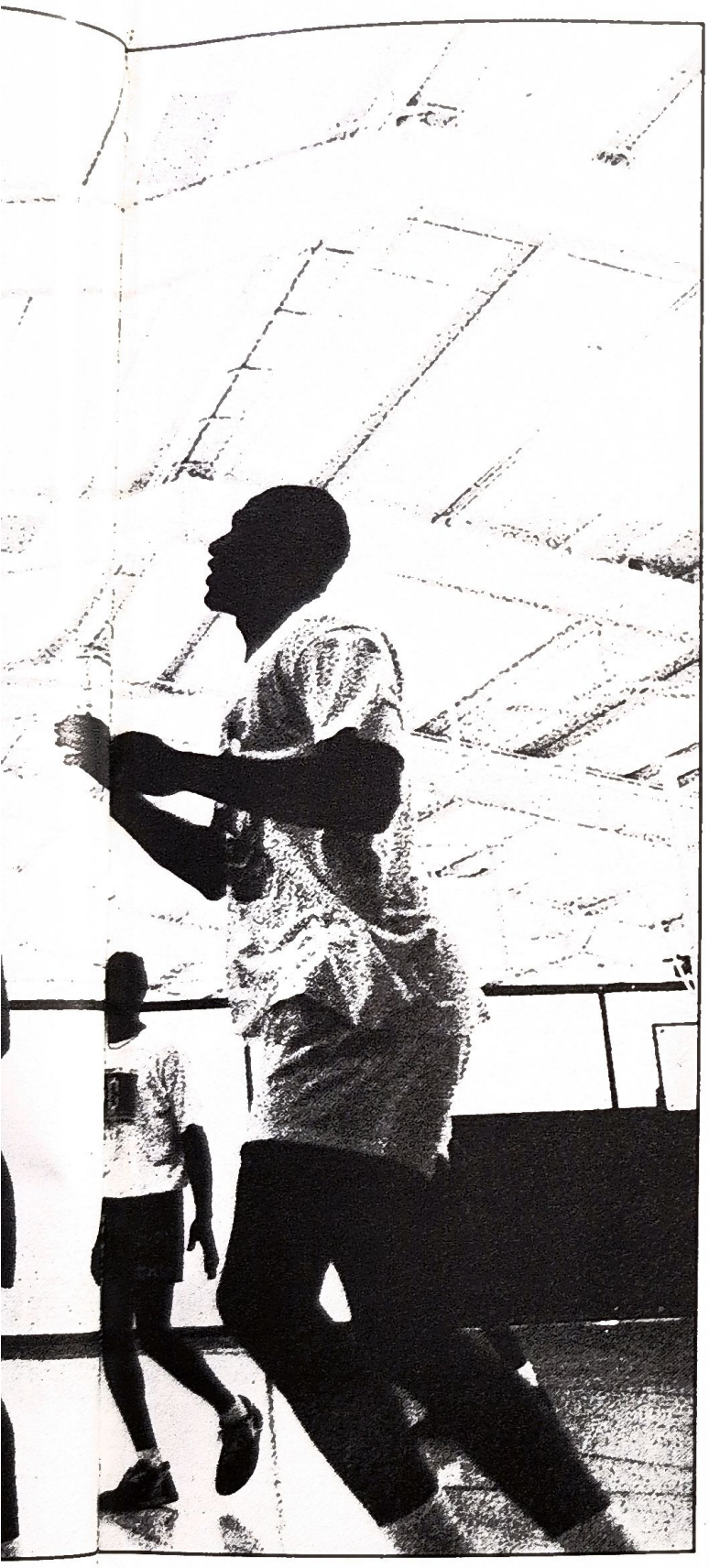
Marvin Stevens



A pickup game at the Dumaree Athletic Complex.

Patrick Holt





The game, the dream

For Marvin Stevens and Patrick Holt, former Columbus high school and college stars, hopes of the NBA are a faded memory. But the game is still sweet—and there is life beyond the backboard.

By Bob Irvin

"As much as I play—and I love the game—all my friends say it's *my girlfriend. And I even say I agree, sometimes, 'cause I love to play. . . ."*

—Marvin Stevens

Marvin Stevens, 30, knows a thing or two about the ups and downs of life. And when you melt it down—whether on the basketball court or in life—failure is failure and victory is victory, isn't it? They don't do a very good job disguising themselves as anything else. Stevens has known both well.

Stevens is the scorer, 6-6 and 200 pounds of pure, sweet scorch-the-nets talent, whether it be slashing drives to the hoops or arcing three-point shots.

Stevens also knows what it's like to go stone cold, as he does in one particular game on one particular September night at the relatively new Dumaree Athletic Complex off Nelson Road. This is serious pick-up ball.

No, you're not invited. This is *not*, "Get your five and wait for winners." It's an exclusive fraternity of about 20 guys who rotate in and out with a system only they can understand. Jimmy Jackson, Chris Jent, Lawrence Funderburke are out there; so is Herb Jones, who just went to the NCAA Final Four with Cincinnati.

Stevens misses once, twice, three times. Jent, 22 and the young tiger, is paired off against the old lion. Jent, chasing a dream of playing in the NBA, blows by Stevens for a hoop, just like that same dream blew by Stevens a long time ago. Jent next cans a jumper over Stevens, who is suddenly looking old. The former South High School and Arkansas State star, who has had a couple of disappointing stints with the Columbus Horizon of the Continental Basketball Association in recent years, isn't keeping up.

Some flabby white guys watch from the sidelines before returning to their game on the next court. Little boys watch, and a few others. But that's it. No big crowd, no sudden cheers. It's a strange sight, seeing Jackson and Jent and other OSU stars past and present playing on a court next to guys who can't make a layup unless it's from the right side.

This, however, is basketball. Pickup ball. Marvin Stevens's world. No TV timeouts, no Dick Vitale, no cheerleaders in scarlet and gray. Somehow, this form of ball is purer. This is where Marvin Stevens can lace it up with Jimmy Jackson and no one on the court cares that one is about to ink a multimillion-dollar contract and the other would just like one more shot at semipro ball.

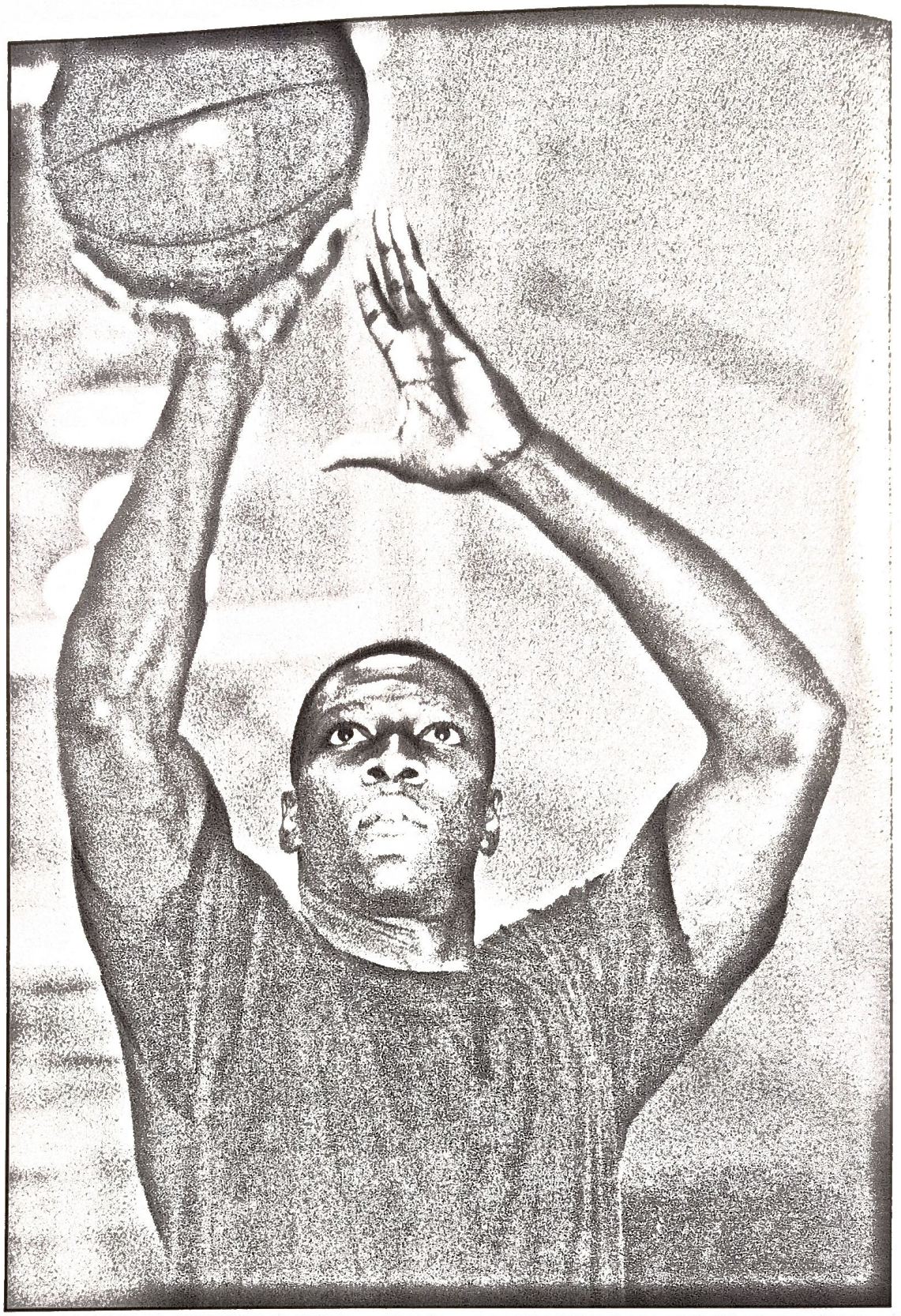
No, they only care that the score is 8-4, 12 wins, and who-the-hell-was-supposed-to-check-Funderburke when he broke loose for that monster jam?

Stevens's side loses. But moments later he's back out there and goes flying through the middle, legs splaying, double-pumping a finger roll that lays itself in for two. A little later he grabs a rebound, nails a three-pointer.

So the old man does have some moves left.

"You know, I know what it's like to be in a gym and all these middle-schoolers are watching and you go up and jam the ball down and everybody is so quiet, like they're in awe. . . . Players in the NBA, they're professionals. But maybe we'll be looked at as neighborhood legends. . . ."

—Patrick Holt



Basketball nomad: Marvin Stevens, 6-6, shoots at the Willis Athletic Complex in October.

Patrick Holt led Linden-McKinley High School to the 1985 state championship game, but who remembers that now? Funderburke is the man in town at the moment, the OSU darling now that Jackson has headed for the big money. But at Dumaree on a sticky September night, all Holt knows is he's got to lean on Funderburke, stick that elbow in the back, push him just a little farther from the basket.

Funderburke, a little sloppy, a little lazy, fires up a three-pointer that misses; it's a shot he won't get near under coach Randy Ayers later this fall. Holt, by contrast, has to work hard for everything he gets. He muscles a rebound, blocks a shot. But he'll never have as pretty a move as that Funderburke jam.

Patrick Holt is the 6-7 leaper. Rebounder. Defense in the middle. Shot blocking is the most valuable thing he can bring to his side. But Holt never made it big because . . . because. . . .

"He never developed any offense," says guard Ron Stokes, OSU '85, watching from the sidelines. "Some players just take longer to develop."

Holt played for four years at Northern Kentucky University but never averaged more than 3.2 points per game in a season. He still holds the school record, however, for blocked shots: 246, 110 games, 2.4 per. Holt, 25, still can wreak havoc in a Worthington Summer League or winter league or pickup game by leaping and swatting away a shot in the middle.

And he also can watch from the sidelines, as he did this summer, as his Worthington League coach and good friend, Louie Cathcart, starts a kid not yet 20, Antonio Watson, at center. Watson, an Eastmoor product, is set to play his first year for OSU this winter. The kid has the po-

tential to be an up-and-comer, if he puts on weight and gets stronger.

Patrick Holt? Holt might *possibly* get a tryout with the Horizon, according to the semipro team's assistant coach and personnel director, Kenny Natt.

But what's this? At Dumaree, Stokes is on the sidelines watching Holt because Stokes's pickup team, with Watson at center, lost. Stokes shakes his head.

"Man, I should have chosen Patrick" over Watson, Stokes says, as Holt two-hands a rebound back into the basket, albeit with less grace than most major college centers possess. "Look at that. He plays hard. Defense, rebounding. He *understands* the game."

Stevens and Holt are basketball nomads. Stevens's basketball trail has taken more twists and turns than a back country road. South High School, all-district star. Coffeyville (Kansas) Junior College, a "top-15 JC player in the nation," according to one scouting service at that time. Arkansas State, two-year starter. Then Argentina, 1986. Next?

"Where *did* I go?" Stevens muses to himself, trying to remember. Ah, yes, Portugal, '86-'87 season. Then West Germany. Followed by the Topeka Sizzlers in the CBA. Then two years of tryouts with the Horizon.

"Both years, I should have made it," he says. Last fall, at camp, "I was told by [coach Vince] Chickerella, 'There shouldn't be any problem.' But then all of a sudden, I wasn't there. I think it got into a name and numbers game. They pretty much know who they want from the start anyway."

Stevens even sold program ads and worked on drumming up corporate sponsors for the Horizon in the summer of '91. "He had some very solid contacts," says Mike Stone, a public relations man for the Horizon. Stevens finally did make the team. He was placed on the Columbus roster last March 10—with less than a week left in the season. He appeared in two games and averaged 7.5 points while shooting 60 percent from the field.

March 10 also is the date Holt rejoined the Horizon. Holt's trail wasn't as long, but it, too, fell short of the NBA. From Linden he went to Northern Kentucky, spending summers back in Columbus as a group worker at St. Stephens Community House. There, he gave clinics in the gym, dazzling the kids with those jams that left mouths hanging.

After college, Holt tried the pro ball route. He appeared in five games for the '90-'91 Horizon, averaging 7.0 rebounds; last spring he was signed as a late season fill-in. Holt, like Stevens, appeared in two games. He had a total of 11 minutes of play, no points, no rebounds.

Holt grew up in Atlanta, but moved to Columbus with his family when he was in sixth grade. His parents split when he was seven. His younger brother, Lewis Geter, also starred for Linden, and then Ohio University the last two years, and was lately chasing the elusive brass ring himself—at a New York Knicks tryout camp this fall. Geter did well, but was one of the last cuts.

Like Holt, Stevens knew what it was like not to have a father for a portion of his youth. His father passed away when he was in high school.

"I can remember times when my mom had to work and I would be by myself," Stevens says of growing up. "For long periods. But it forced me to grow more. My best friends drank and smoked, but that didn't mean I had to come near it." Both Holt and Stevens say they avoided such vices, and any trouble with the law, while growing up. Many around them did not. "Playing ball just took up a lot of my time," says Holt, who didn't begin playing seriously until the 10th grade.

If either of them had a criminal record, they wouldn't have been able to interview for the jobs they now hold: Both are youth leaders for juvenile offenders at a state maximum security home. Holt heard about the openings from a friend late last December. Both applied, and both were hired just before the first of the year.

"They're like correctional officers," says Gwen Shealey, superintendent of the Scioto Village complex, in Delaware County, where they work. They chaperone 15-to-21-year-olds to breakfast and school, to the rec center and back to their dorm again. It's a maximum security joint run by the Ohio Department of Youth Services. Each offender must be closely accounted for.

Both Holt and Stevens realize that with a wrong turn, on a wrong day, at a wrong time, they could be jumped. But it hasn't happened yet. And they think they're making a difference with kids. "They're doing good," says Shealey; "They seem to relate to kids real well."

Chris Jent is ready to reenter the fray at Dumaree. One of the most popular OSU players in recent years is only now beginning the post-college journey Stevens and Holt know all too well.

Why is he at Dumaree, getting ready to face off with Stevens again? Why risk a badly turned ankle, a twisted knee? "To stay in condition," he says. "People are running at you, in your face when you shoot that jumper. It helps, basically, just to stay sharp."

Ask Jent about Stevens, Holt, the old men of the court in an increasingly younger man's game, and he says, "A lot of it's timing. You've got to be in the right place at the right time. A lot of it is politics. You need everything to fall into place to make the NBA." (Jent went to Philadelphia in October for the NBA 76ers' camp; he was waived.)

Watching the next game, sitting on the bench, is a young man named Bryan Jones. He coaches summer league ball. He once played for Beechcroft High School, dreamed of playing college ball . . . but he didn't keep the grades up, and somewhere along the line started gaining weight.

"Pat never had the training," Jones says. "He never had the chance to go to all the camps Lawrence went to. A lot of guys just never get that chance." Later, Jones is talking about one of the more solid players in this pickup game, one Wayne Marshall, who played for a small Christian college in North Carolina.

"Man, Wayne can *play*," says Stokes, also watching.

But Wayne never got much of a chance.

How many guys, you wonder, are like this? How many inner-city kids chase the dream of playing pro ball? How many see it disappear, replaced by street ball and fast-food jobs that get old quick, and suddenly, maybe they're living in a place like Scioto Village?

Holt and Stevens meet up at Louie's Record Shop, on Mock Road on the east side. They walk around like they own the place. Louie Cathcart *does* own the place, but they're all good friends. Holt and Stevens play on Cathcart's Verich Reps team, a sort of barnstorming exhibition outfit that plays games against opposition ranging from major colleges to prison teams.

Verich knocked off Jackson and Jent and the Buckeyes in an exhibition game in November, 1991, a result that surprised lots of folks. "Why?" Cathcart asks, mocking that surprise. "Tell me, why was that?"

Cathcart, who at 45 plays against Jackson and Jent and others in pickup and Worthington League ball, is trying to say that experience counts for something. Nobody on his team will make the NBA, but they can play a little.

Holt and Stevens, both wearing basketball T-shirts, sit down in the store's

"*This*, however, is basketball. Pickup ball. Marvin Stevens's world. No TV timeouts, no Dick Vitale, no cheerleaders in scarlet and gray. Somehow, this form of ball is purer."

back quarters. It's cluttered. An old basketball trophy is nearly piled under by junk.

"I look at all those guys as just regular people," says Holt, referring to players such as Jackson and some other pro players he has played against. "I look at Marvin as every bit as good as a lot of those guys. I remember coming up, hearing people talk about Marvin. I was like, 'Marvin, Marvin, who is this Marvin?' But now we all play together. I look at it like, maybe there's something that he knows that I don't know. Or maybe that I know that Jimmy doesn't know."

"You've got to be in the right place at the right time to make pro ball," says Holt, sounding much like Jent. "To me, that's the way society is, and how are you going to change it?"

Stevens joins in with a bit of wisdom. "I never tell kids not to try. You cannot discourage someone if they want to try. But I tell them, 'At least have another option.' "

"I try to tell the kids basketball is always going to be there," says Holt. "But you've got to have something else. Even professional players, they're not gonna be playing for 25 to 30 years."

"I'm not going to lie. To be honest, I wish I'd made the NBA," says Stevens. "But I don't have any regrets. The only thing I regret is I haven't gotten my degree yet. But once I stop trying to make money [in basketball] . . . hey, I'm just one year away from my degree."

"Sometimes I look and think, 'I should be out there.' But it doesn't bother me a lot."

Stevens has about a year to go for a business degree and thinks he can finish up somewhere around Columbus. Holt received his degree in social work from NKU.

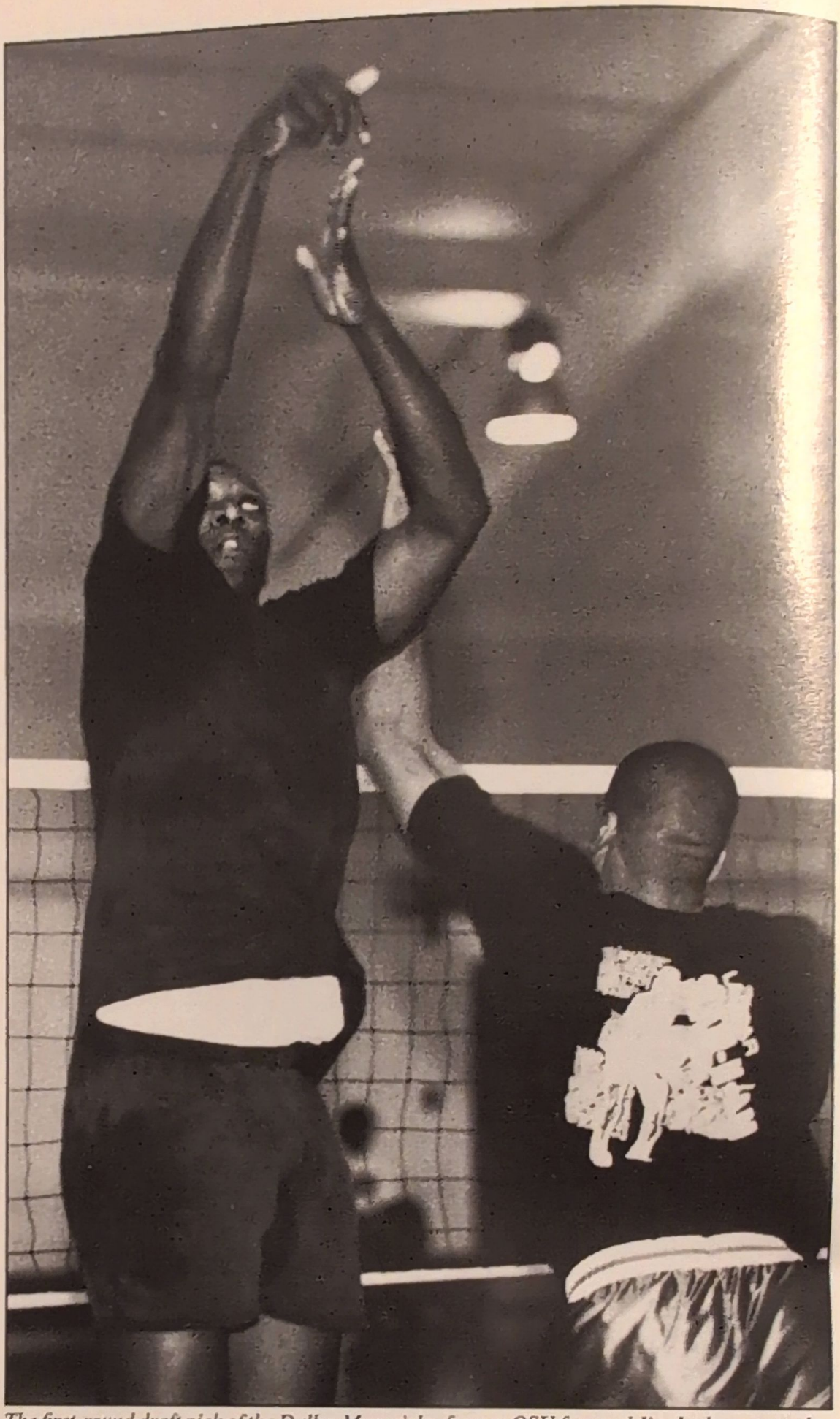
"A lot of guys live on that dream," says Holt of the NBA. "But you've got to face reality. The CBA? You can have a job one day, and the next, you don't."

So you've got a couple of guys facing their own personal crossroads, nose-to-nose with their own reality. They need to give up The Basketball Dream, but they'll never give up basketball. Both love the game—would you call your favorite pastime your *girlfriend*?—but this lover won't pay the bills any longer.

If you can catch the Verich Reps anytime soon, you'll see a guy who can score points left and right when he's hot and another who can stop the other team from doing the same. They compliment each other.

At Dumaree on a September night, they're in their element. Stokes and Cathcart somehow wind up in a big argument over a foul. One calls the other "crazy." The air quickly turns blue.

Stevens and Holt just watch, they wait. When all the shouting is over, the game will start up again.



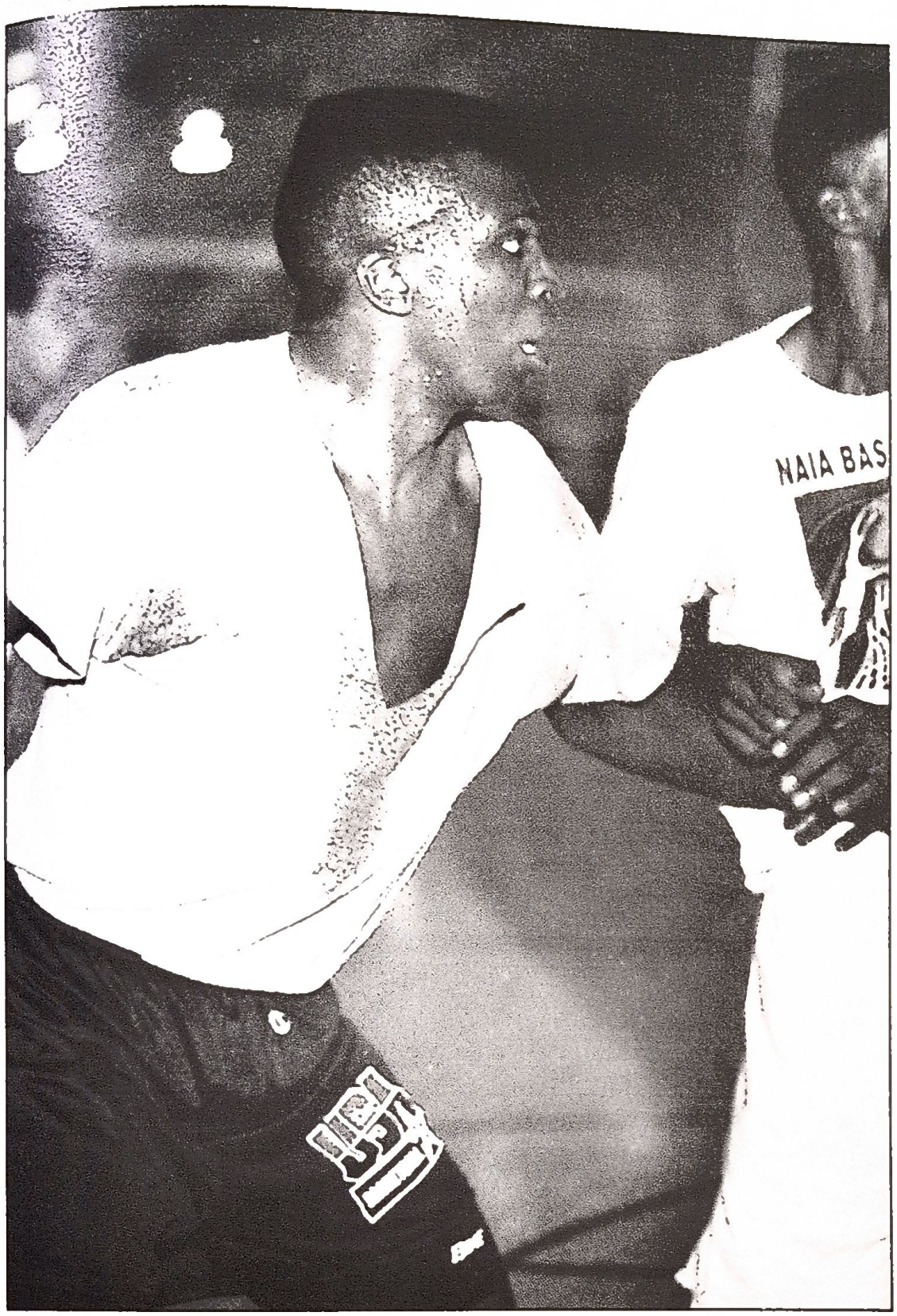
The first-round draft pick of the Dallas Mavericks, former OSU forward Jim Jackson, guards Stevens during a game at Willis.

Will the game start up again for Marvin Stevens? At times in the Worthington League he would knock shots down unconsciously; at times he'd lose his touch altogether. And then there was the much-younger Jent taking him to school.

The Horizon extended an invitation to Stevens for its veteran camp, beginning Nov. 5. (Stevens says his lawyer has had some overtures from a league in Switzerland, too.) Natt says he could see Stevens backing up the Horizon's all-rookie small forward, former Oklahoma star Kermit Holmes, and its shooting guard, former NBA player Byron Irvin (assuming both are back with the team this winter).

"He shoots the ball better than Kermit," Natt says. "And he's faster and quicker. Kermit is just stronger, that's all. I know Marvin can shoot the ball, I know he can play. He just hasn't gotten the chance to prove himself. We've heard a lot of good things about his play in the [Worthington] League, and we're willing to give him a second look."

That would be a third look, and hasn't Stevens heard this jingle before? (What



Chasing the dream: Patrick Holt, 6-7, at the Willis Athletic Complex in late October.

was it Chickerella told him?) But maybe Stevens will give it another go. As for Holt, Natt says the Horizon is only marginally interested in him. "But I understand he's a great kid," Natt says. "If we needed someone like that at some point in the season, I'd be willing to give him a look."

Holt, when told this news, is less than thrilled. He certainly isn't ready to quit his job. "Man, who knows whether they're coming or going," he says of the Horizon. "Plus, it'd be hard to just up and quit my job right now. I know I've got a lot of respect from the kids and the staff."

"We have staff the kids don't respect," says Stevens. "But I know that I have respect. If you try to get over on them and play mind games, they aren't going to respect you. Your safety can be in jeopardy. Your security can be in jeopardy. A lot of them are like, 'Why? Why? Why can I do this? Why can't I do that?' "

Stevens has been working in the intake dorm, with juveniles, freshly sentenced, just off the streets. Not all of them go to school, housed in the complex's basement. Some only go to meals and rec and maybe to a peer group and then back to the dorm. "A lot of felony ones and felony twos," says Shealey of the intake dorm. "But he [Stevens] is levelheaded. He seems to be patient, and the kids respond to him."

"It all depends on you," says Holt, who works with sex offenders in the units he often is assigned to, according to Shealey. "It depends on how you carry yourself. If you call them names and treat them like shit, they won't respond to that. They want to challenge you, and they play a lot of games with you. But if you show them you care for them, a lot will respond."

Stevens says he's working on a steady relationship with a girl. Holt's girlfriend gave birth this fall to Holt's first child, Shanelle. Holt says he'll be around his daughter as much as he can. And he says he wants marriage, but it's about two years off. The money needs to come first. And questions of the future must be cleared up.

Neither ballplayer is under the illusion that he'll be a youth leader until retirement—Holt has another dream, of running his own business someday—and neither is ready to hang up his sneakers, even if there's very little money left to be made from the game.

"I still feel I'm getting better, as I get older," says Stevens. "A lot of guys think I'm 25 or 26 and are surprised when they find out I'm almost 30. But I think I've done well. Not too many guys can say they've been to Europe, toured the world."

Both also say they'll most likely only play Verich Reps games this winter if the games land on their days off, and are near Columbus. Holt speaks for both men when he says that each day at work, "I feel like I've got 35 kids of my own."

Says Shealey: "I think they've got the ability to change lives."

And maybe, just maybe, that will count for more in the long run than scoring two points for the Horizon, or for some team in Europe, or—for one night at least—defeating a team Jim Jackson plays on.

"I think I can be a role model," says Stevens.

This role-modeling stuff is tricky, but this one seems to make sense. Because—despite how alluring that TV commercial is—how many kids, in reality, turn out to Be Like Mike? ■

Bob Irvin is a staff writer for Suburban News Publications.

" 'A lot of guys live on that dream,' says Holt of the NBA. 'But you've got to face reality. The CBA? You can have a job one day, and the next, you don't.' "

At Inniswood,

Twenty years ago, Grace Innis gave her

it's the quietest park

tranquil gardens and woods in Westerville

vs.

for a Metro Park. Now the pressures

traffic

mount to run a busy road through it.

By Margaret Newkirk

The loss—when you first look at it on a map—doesn't look like much. Just 150 feet out of a 92-acre park, way up there at the park's northern end. Just an edge. Who would care? Who would eyen notice, in a park most people don't know is there in the first place?

Welcome to Inniswood Botanical Gardens and Nature Preserve vs. Schrock Road, a controversy two decades old and counting.

It's got squabbling. It's got name-calling. It's killed a proposed income tax, pitted neighbor against neighbor, generated an easy ton of paperwork and may, by next year, be responsible for a bizarre electoral exercise called a nonbinding ballot issue—only the second in Ohio history if it happens, according to the Westerville City Councilman who proposed it.

MIKE MERRIMAN/RYCUS ASSOC.

The boardwalk that runs through Inniswood Gardens.

At last count, the contenders include the city of Westerville; the Ohio Department of Transportation; the Federal Highway Administration; Metro Parks; a grass-roots group called Citizens for Safety First; another grass-roots group called the Greenheads, named after mallard ducks and nicknamed Watchducks for the Environment; the Sierra Club; and the residents of Columbus Colony, a group of cottages for retired deaf people, located right next to Inniswood.

It's bitter. It's ugly.

It all started with two elderly sisters. They owned the land that became the park that blocked Schrock Road in its tracks years ago.

Grace and Mary Innis were what in their day were called spinsters. They never married. Until the early 1960s, they lived at home, at their family's Cleveland Avenue farm.

The Innis family was prominent locally. It was instrumental in founding McKendree United Methodist Church, still in business on Cleveland Avenue. The family's farm was huge once, 6,000 acres before the developers came knocking.

But come knocking they did, and, in 1961, the Innis sisters decided to move. They found a little piece of land east of Westerville, an achingly pretty piece of land, with a creek running through it, a stand of beech forest, and acres of meadowland perfect for Grace's passion—gardening.

Grace was 67 when the two sisters bought the original 37-acre tract of land. Mary was 66. The two were radically different. Grace was flamboyant, gregarious. Her gardening was her life and she loved to show it off. Her second love was throwing parties.

Mary, by contrast, was a recluse. She did the cooking and cleaning and had no interest in her sister's showy irises and daffodils and parties. Mary liked the beech forest part of the land. She was the bird watcher, the naturalist. She liked roses, but Grace didn't. Grace grew them anyway, a few small bushes right under Mary's bedroom window.

Mary lasted only five years at the new home; she died in 1966, at age 71. Grace stayed on, throwing her parties and tending her gardens and the roses under Mary's window.

Somewhere along in there, she got an idea. All of this—and then some—could be all of ours. Grace Innis's flowers and Mary Innis's woods wouldn't fall to developers. They would become a park, preserved exactly as they were.

Grace Innis, 72, got busy.

Inniswood Gardens director Phil Feldmeyer only dimly remembers the negotiations and bidding and counter-negotiations generated by Grace Innis's little idea. He was just a pup then, a new employee at Franklin County Metro Parks. He remembers that Grace was hardheaded and that she talked to just about any governmental or quasi-governmental entity that had even the slightest interest in making a park out of her home.

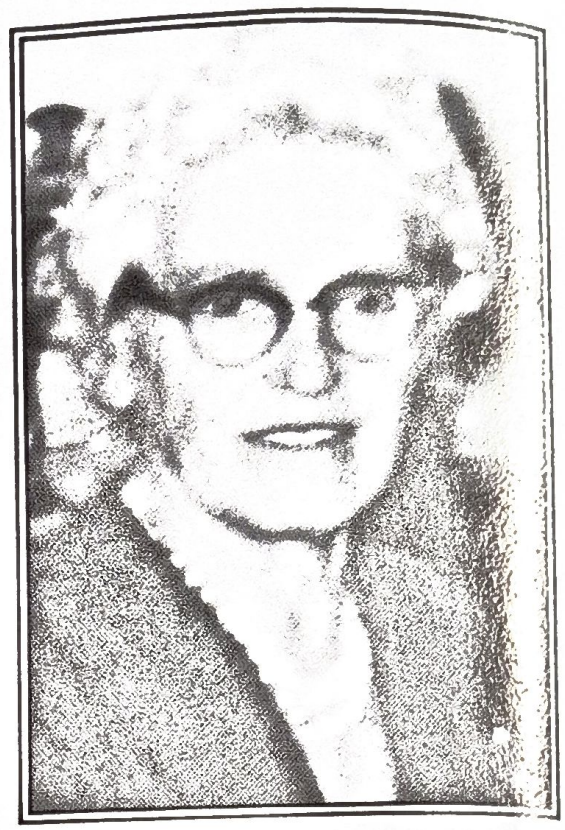
The state got a call. So did the city of Westerville and the Audubon Society. Grace's conditions were clear. She would donate her 37 acres on three conditions. The land would be preserved as it was, or, if improved, would be improved the way Grace wanted. Grace would continue to live there, until she either died or was confined to a nursing home. And the land would not be donated unless the park district also bought another 54 acres of land surrounding it.

"She was no dummy," says Feldmeyer. "She realized 37 acres was too small to sustain as a natural area. She had blocked out this area of second-growth timber. It had to be bought, too. Grace Innis was shrewd."

The obstacles to what would become Inniswood Gardens were innumerable, says Feldmeyer. "You had a guy who didn't want to sell his property. You had all sorts of things. It was a complicated package. If anything was ever meant to be, this place was. When you look at the obstacles, every one of them looked insurmountable."

Grace prevailed—as usual, says Feldmeyer. Grace Innis was nothing if not stubborn. She had, as Feldmeyer puts it, "these uncompromising values." In 1972, Inniswood Gardens was born.

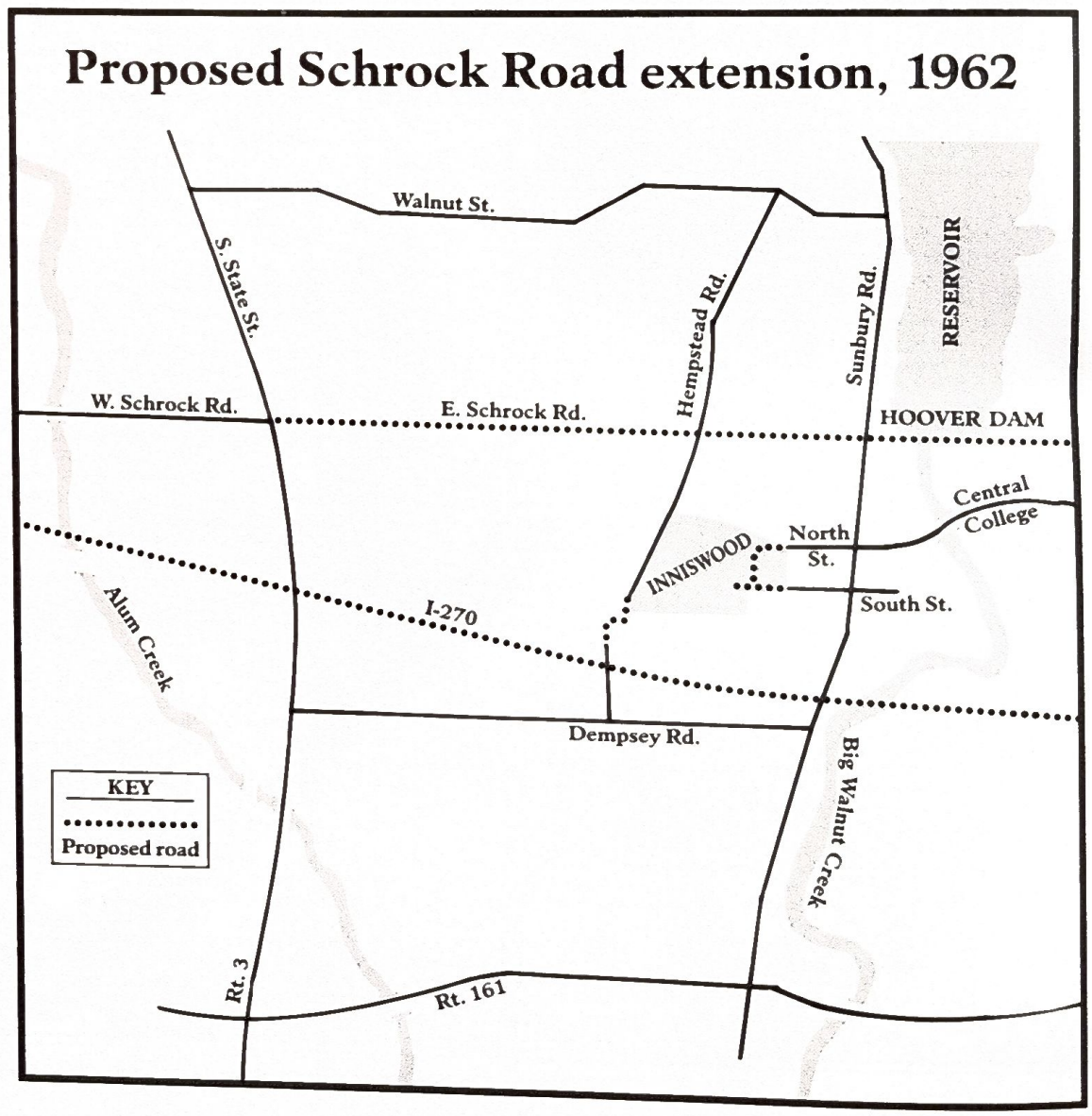
The seeds of the controversy already had been planted.



Mary Innis

Ask 10 Westervillians what the controversy is about and you'll get 10 answers. Wait five minutes, and you'll get the 11th. Over the phone. From somebody you've never called and never heard of. Somebody who thought you might like to hear the *real*. . . .

The problem, at least, is obvious. Just look at a map. Schrock Road, which spends a good portion of its span as a well-traveled four-lane road, runs smack into Inniswood Gardens and stops there. East-west



Grace Innis

traffic from State Street to Hoover Dam or points east has to take a sharp right or a sharp left and travel a mile in either direction if it hopes to connect back to a major road that will take it east again. And vice versa.

Drivers, of course, do the logical thing. They cut through a neighborhood instead, despite that neighborhood's best efforts to stop them.

The solution? Also obvious. Extend Schrock Road through the northern edge of Inniswood Gardens, connect it up to Central College Road and voilà! Problem solved. No more cut-through traffic.

It's a solution that infuriates environmentalists, not to mention the subdivision-ites whose homes back up on Inniswood Gardens, and the deaf residents of Columbus Colony, whose off-the-beaten-track cottages also would sit beside Schrock if it were extended.

"From the standpoint of what you should and should not be able to do, this is just wrong," says John Jacobs of the Sierra Club. "Metro Parks should *not* be something that the state and city can just come in and put a road through."

The Sierra Club, the Greenheads and Metro Parks itself oppose the extension for a number of reasons, not the least of which is the character of Inniswood.

This is not your average park. The tiniest park in the Metro Parks system, Inniswood also is the quietest, the least well-known and the hardest to find.

Activities that attract Central Ohioans to other parks—picnicking, frisbee-throwing, dog walking, jogging—are banned there.

Inniswood visitors come for the peace and quiet. They sit on benches in the herb garden, or the rose garden, or the rock garden, reading books or doing nothing. Or they walk on the boardwalk that cuts through Mary Innis's woods; the boardwalk sweeps right next to the area that would be Schrock Road.

The landscape is gorgeous—meadows, steep creek banks, the woods and Grace's gardens, tended and improved over the years.

"It gives people the opportunity to be contemplative," says Inniswood director Feldmeyer. "People need places to get out, natural areas like this."

"Not everybody sits on a bench at Inniswood," he says. "But if we as a society don't provide those opportunities, we're in trouble. Opportunities to sit on a bench and read a book or just try to make sense out of what you're doing and where you're going."

The proposed Schrock Road extension effectively would shave a 150-foot strip off the park, and off some neighboring land closer to Sunbury Road—the land bordering Columbus Colony.

It doesn't look like much. According to park supporters, it is. Inniswood already is a small park, they say. The 150-foot strip translates into 12 acres of lost woodland. And that's not counting woodland that won't be bulldozed, but will die back as a result of exposure and drainage changes.

"We call it a domino effect," says Feldmeyer. "If somebody came along and cut your coat in half, that's going to affect more than just the one side of your body that doesn't have the coat."

The road "is going to have a severe adverse effect. You can't just change the edge of the woods and not expect that change to be carried some distance into the woods," he says. "Granted, Schrock Road is going to be a direct line and people will save three or four minutes. But they're not making trees and forests and woods anymore."

And it's going to be noisier at Inniswood.

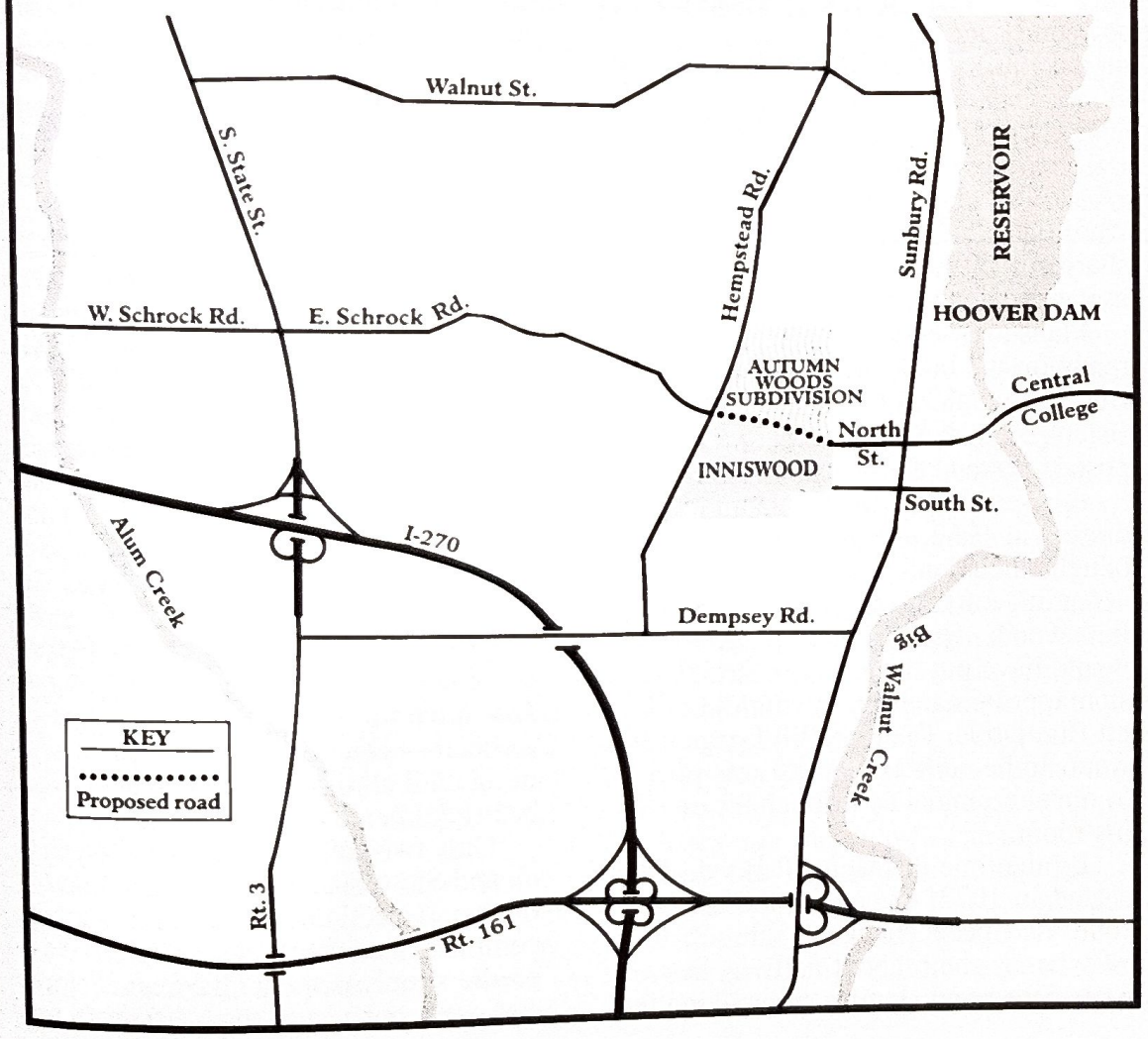
"I don't understand it," says Bob Canzoneri, leader of the Greenheads. "I don't know why they would do it, except for this engineering mentality, this mentality that says roads have to be at absolutely square grids," Canzoneri says. "You know, when you go to France, and you want to get into Paris, the road goes *around* the Bois de Boulogne. Paris is a heck of a lot bigger place than Westerville. And the Bois de Boulogne is a heck of a lot bigger than Inniswood."

"It's just that getting from here to there stuff," Canzoneri says.

Schrock extension proponents would agree. It is about that "getting from here to there stuff." And Westerville residents have been getting from here to there right through their neighborhood for years now.

Forest Rise Drive resident Bill Longenbaker wouldn't let his kids play in the front yard when they were little. The road had too much cut-through traffic, going too fast in a neighborhood that wasn't built for it. Forest Rise sits in the middle of a subdivision called Autumn Woods,

Proposed Schrock Road extension, 1992



just to the north of Inniswood. The subdivision is typical, full of cul-de-sacs and cut-off streets. There's only one way through Autumn Woods, and it feeds right onto Forest Rise. It's a perfect shortcut from Hempstead Road over to Sunbury.

It's the second generation of Autumn Woods residents who are carrying the fight for Schrock Road now. The first generation tried in vain to solve their traffic problem in other ways. They lobbied to close off Forest Rise. Westerville City Council defeated the issue. Speed bumps came in a few years ago, helping one of the feeder streets but doing little for Forest Rise itself.

Longenbaker and the rest of the second generation got involved in the issue in late 1988. The timing proved fortuitous. By then, the state highway department and the Federal Highway Administration had stepped in, nudging Westerville city officials toward another look at the Schrock Road extension, which had been languishing on the city thoroughfare map books for decades.

Longenbaker and the other extension proponents rely heavily on history in making their arguments for finishing Schrock Road. The argument goes like this: Yes, Inniswood has been around for a long time, but the Schrock Road extension predates it. Plans to make Schrock Road a major east-west arterial were drafted as early as 1955, six years before Grace and Mary Innis bought their portion of what would be the park.

The proof? Don't ask. Longenbaker's got enough maps and legal documents to make anyone's head spin, including—and this is important—the document that made Inniswood a park in the first place. At the request of the Federal Highway Administration, Metro Parks split off the 150-foot strip that would be Schrock Road, exempted it from the many-strings-attached federal park grant used to buy the rest of the park, and effectively granted right-of-way for the future road extension.

Longenbaker has an ancient quote from a former Metro Parks director, claiming everybody knew there'd be a road there.

And he says the Ohio School for the Deaf Alumni Association, which owns the land east of Inniswood, made similar right-of-way arrangements for its land. Want more? Longenbaker's got it. The Schrock Road extension was, and is again, on Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission's Transportation Improvement Program list, which lines up highway projects for federal money. And Westerville already has accepted federal money to improve Schrock—another key fact.

When Westerville extended Schrock Road to Hempstead Road, federal highway dollars paid a large chunk of the cost. Only so-called "arterial" roads can get those kinds of federal dollars. And "arterial" has a very specific meaning. An arterial road has to connect to another arterial road. Hempstead is not a designated arterial road. Sunbury Road is.

Westerville promised to extend Schrock to Sunbury to get the federal dollars to extend it to Hempstead.

The long and short of it all, to Longenbaker, is that the Schrock Road expansion should have happened years ago, and has been stalled by the meddling of his own neighbors—Autumn Woods residents and other subdivision-ites whose property backs up to Inniswood.

Not surprisingly, extension opponents have a slightly different version of Schrock Road's history. While they admit that the extension has been on the planning books for decades, they question whether that fact should decide the issue.

The Schrock Road plans have changed constantly, they say.

When the Innis sisters bought their property, Schrock Road was probably the last danger they were considering. The road stopped miles away, at State Street in Westerville. It wasn't even pointed toward the Innis property; Schrock Road's sharp curve southward would come later, as it was extended.

"The 150-foot strip translates into 12 acres of lost woodland. And that's not counting woodland that won't be bulldozed, but will die back as a result of exposure and drainage changes."

Plans to extend Schrock Road were already on the books back then, of course. But they wouldn't have worried the Innis sisters, because Schrock Road wasn't supposed to extend their way.

A Westerville town planning map, drafted in 1962, the year after the sisters bought their land, shows Schrock Road extending out toward Sunbury well above Inniswood. The original plan, in fact, would have put the Schrock Road extension approximately in the middle of Forest Rise Drive. The road Bill Longenbaker wants to be built as planned was planned to run approximately through his own living room.

By the time the Metro Parks deal was sealed in 1972, of course, the extension route had been changed. Schrock Road now bends south about halfway between State Street and Hempstead, making way for Autumn Woods and another small subdivision.

Proponents point to other changes, other indications that Westerville has wavered, like the decision to zone a section of Schrock Road for single-family housing. The decision meant a stretch of closely spaced driveways pouring into Schrock Road, driveways that don't belong on a major arterial thoroughfare.

And they point to Westerville's [illegible]ry obvious decision to back off the pl[illegible] in the early 1980s, prompted by a disa[illegible]us income tax ballot issue in 1981. Part [illegible]ue revenue from that plan was to have [illegible]en used for the extension. At the ele[illegible]th hour, a citizens' group rallied to fig[illegible]he tax, solely on the grounds that it [illegible]id fund Schrock Road. The tax was cru[illegible]d.

And so, proponents say, Weste[illegible]ile backed off. The extension plan was [illegible]en off the MORPC TIP list for federal f[illegible]is, on the grounds that the citizenry e[illegible]n't want it. Schrock Road disappeared [illegible]nto the background until 1988, when the For-est Rise neighbors began grumbling.

The issue still might have stayed dead, say proponents, if another incident hadn't happened at the same time. It had to do with that old promise to the federal government, back when Westerville accepted the federal funds for an earlier Schrock Road extension and promised to connect Schrock to Sunbury.

In 1988, Westerville began to solicit another big pot of federal money, this time for the extension and widening of Cleveland Avenue up to the Polaris area. In the course of that, a federal highway administration official brought up the old Schrock promise, implying that Westerville should follow through on that if it expected any cash for the Cleveland Avenue project.

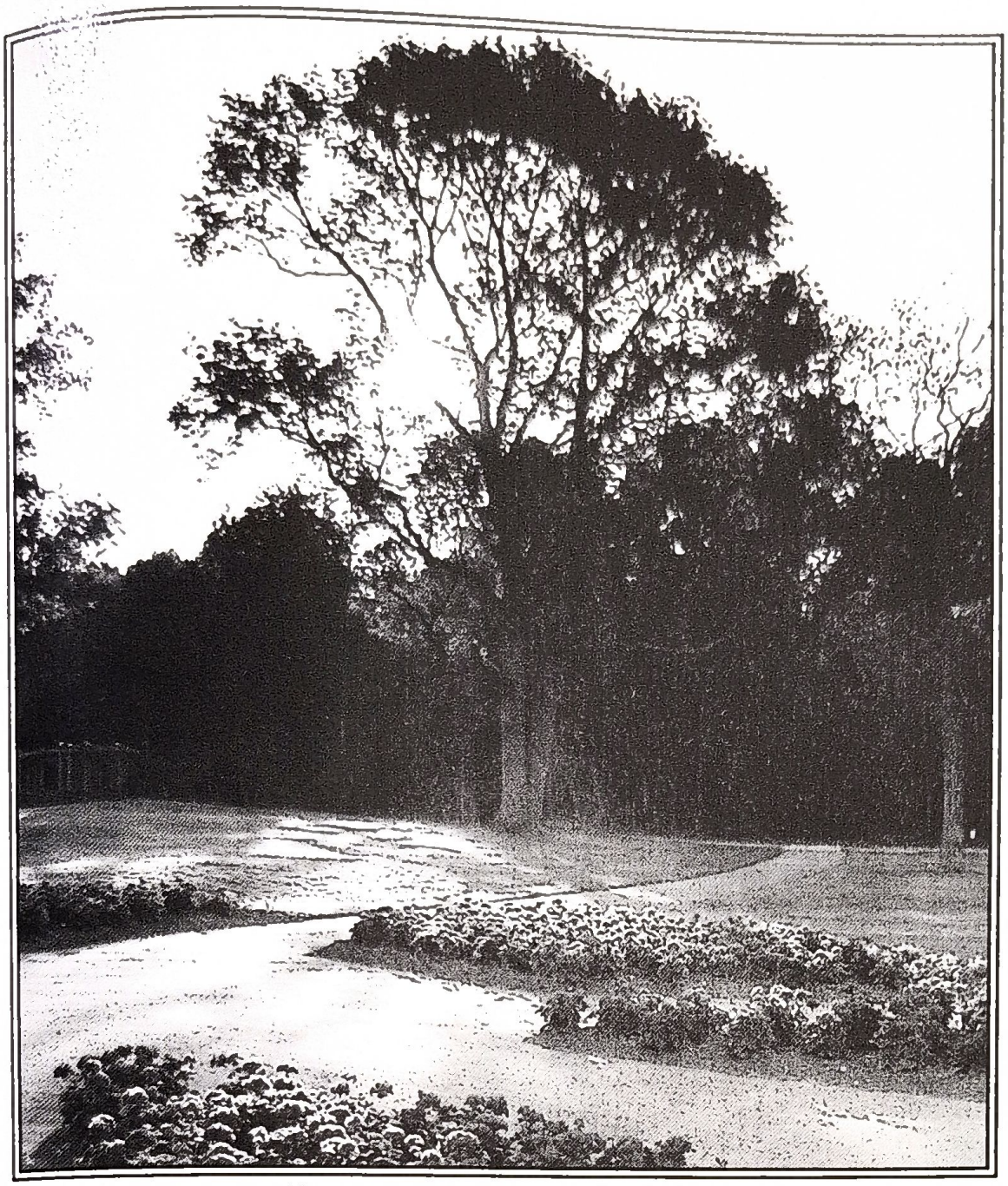
And so—pushed by Longenbaker and the Forest Rise group and nudged along by the federal government—Schrock Road became an issue again. It was 1989.

The Schrock Road expansion has moved inexorably forward since then—noise studies, environmental studies, design studies, an official public forum and a slew of boisterous City Council meetings featuring angry subdivision-ites of both stripes, Greenheads, other environmentalists and, typically, according to Longenbaker, a bus full of deaf people.

"It's a circus," says Longenbaker.

Westerville has spent $50,000 on the project so far, and has another $50,000 appropriated. Another public hearing is scheduled for the spring. Westerville City Council—which can't do much of anything until all those studies come in—has been hammered from both sides.

Only two council members, Gary Panek and Stew Flaherty, have firm opinions on the issue. Panek, a former planning commissioner, wants the extension. Westerville simply does not have an adequate east-west connector road, he says. And



The gardens at Inniswood host almost 200,000 visitors a year.

with the development boom around New Albany, the traffic problem is going to get worse.

Flaherty, whose house is one of those backing up on Inniswood, is adamantly opposed to it. It's partly self-interest, he admits. He also likes the park.

The mock vote was Councilman Chip Wetterauer's idea. Or, as Wetterauer would call it, an "advisory election." It's a ballot issue like any other, except that the results aren't binding, kind of like a toothless referendum. The idea, says Wetterauer, is to throw the issue to the voters and use the results to determine whether there's public consensus on it.

"This situation has been around for years," Wetterauer says. "How many depends on how you talk about it. The problem is that it just doesn't seem to go away. You have people who are so fervently involved that it's come to the point where you have to back away from those who are so fervent and see what everybody else thinks. We're a representative government. And it appears that there is no way to break the tie."

A mock vote could also, says Wetterauer, head off what he thinks is inevitable —a real referendum put on the ballot by whichever side in the controversy loses.

"It would say, 'This is how they voted. And it's likely that this would be the outcome again.' "

The idea pleases no one. Inniswood backers, like Flaherty, worry that it's premature; why put an issue on the ballot before the final cost figures are in? Longenbaker doesn't like the idea either; the issue has been politicized enough, he says. And to Panek, the firmest extension proponent on council, the mock vote "doesn't solve anything."

"My position is that if you want to know how the community feels, commission a survey," Panek says.

The mock vote, if it happens, would take place sometime late next year. But both Panek and Flaherty doubt the vote has enough support on council to get on the ballot.

Meanwhile, the project moves forward —to what end, nobody knows.

"It's kind of like a creeping sickness," says the Sierra Club's Jacobs. "They're still going ahead with all these plans. The further you go, that gives more and more justification to ODOT to go ahead and do it. They say they haven't made up their minds, but it's moving along right on schedule. There needs to be some decisions here. It's the same old story."

Longenbaker wants to see a decision, too, some kind of clear statement of intentions. The more the issue remains up in the air, the more susceptible it becomes to what Longenbaker calls "playing politics."

The people who do the dirty work of attracting federal road money—the folks at MORPC and ODOT—emphatically deny that they have an agenda one way or another. The issue is local, they say. It's up to Westerville.

What they, and the Federal Highway Administration, do want to see, though, is *some* kind of action, either to kill the project or finish it. And if the city kills the project, it also needs to take Schrock Road off its list of arterial roads. MORPC's Bob Lawler doubts that move would require Westerville to repay the federal funds it attracted. But it would mean Westerville can close the book on any future federal funding for the road.

And that would please the folks at Inniswood just fine.

The park, says Feldmeyer, has exceeded even Grace Innis's expectations over the past decade. In the park's first official year as a public garden, attendance was a sedate 20,000. The number climbed 261 percent the very next year, and now is hovering just under 200,000 visitors per year.

The attendance numbers don't even come close to those at the larger parks in the Metro Parks system—like Sharon Woods or Highbanks. But Inniswood never was meant to be crowded.

Feldmeyer thinks Grace Innis would have been pleased. "Of course, the bottom line is she's gone. All the people that were involved then are gone. But Inniswood is operating just the way she wanted it to. You can't deny that."

Feldmeyer knew Grace Innis well in her last years. Grace continued living in her own house on the park grounds for 10 years after deeding her land over to Metro Parks and was intimately involved in the details of planning the park that would outlive her. She made guests sign her guest book, kept driving long after she should have stopped ("I know," says Feldmeyer, "I drove with her once"), and had opinions on just about everything.

Grace didn't die at Inniswood. She had a stroke there, in the bedroom that is now Feldmeyer's office. Her cousin, accustomed to calling her to check in, stopped by one morning after the line had been busy too long. He saw the reason through a window. Grace was on the floor, and the phone had been knocked off the hook. She died a few days later, in a hospital. She was 88.

"She was an interesting person," Feldmeyer says. "She was a person that I would label as one with uncompromising values. She wanted her enthusiasm for gardens to outlive her." ■

Margaret Newkirk is a staff writer for Columbus Monthly.

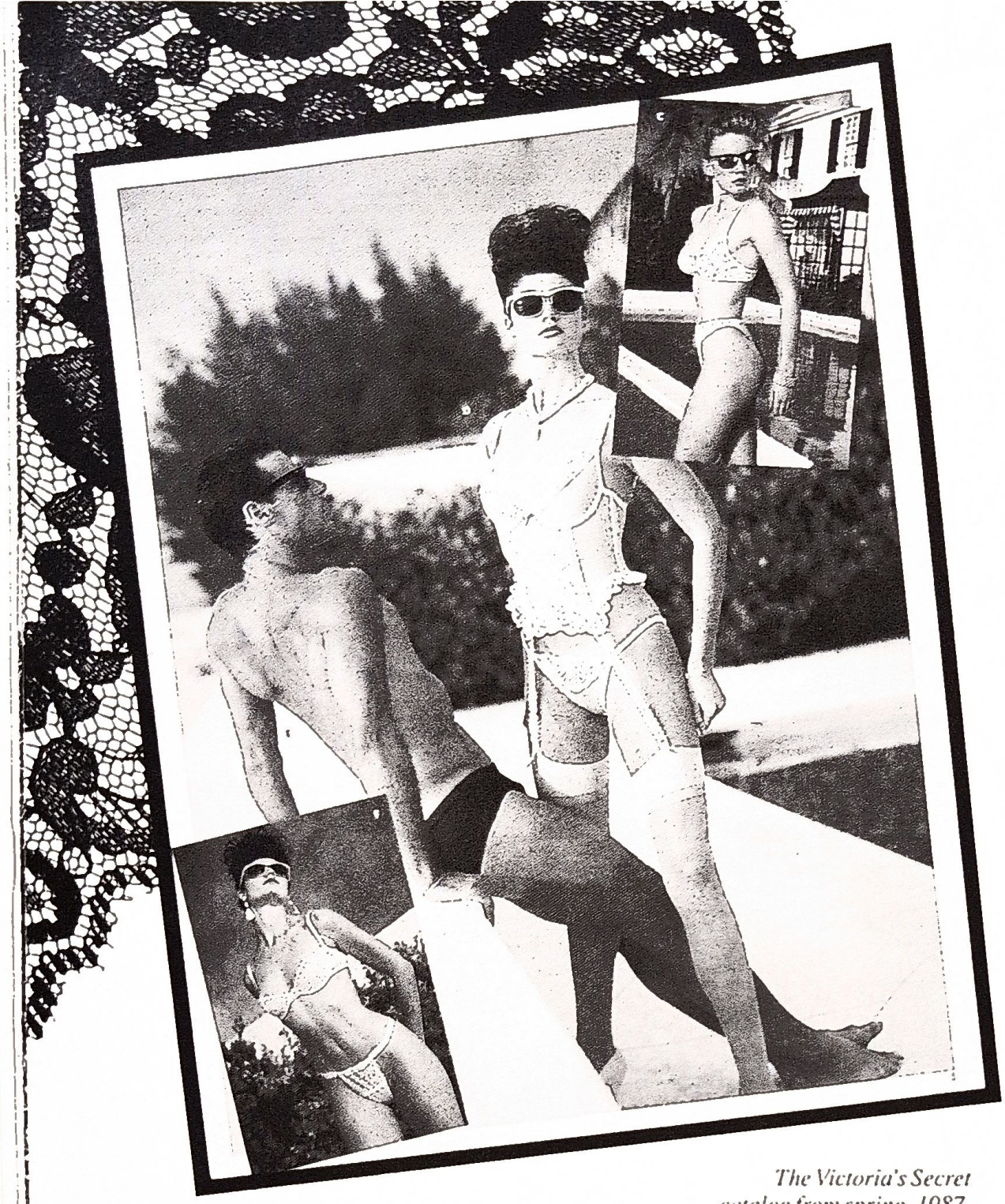
Selling undies (and more) the Wexner way

By Lynne M. Bonenberger

Whatever the secret of the sensuous store décor and the seductive catalogs, Victoria's Secret is yet another Limited success story, to the tune of $1 billion a year.

Passing through the pale pink portals of a Victoria's Secret store or leafing through the legendary catalog is like gliding into a fantasy world of silk, satin and stunningly seductive women.

They greet you at the door on oversized posters ("The dramatic décolletage returns," gushes one, and proves it with a picture that's worth more than a thousand words). They recline languorously across the glossy pages of the catalog. Their hair is tousled, their long-limbed bodies are taut where they should be and



The Victoria's Secret catalog from spring, 1987.

not where they shouldn't be. Bathed in golden light, they address the camera with direct, no-nonsense gazes, and their full, slightly parted lips seem to whisper, "Buy . . . buy . . . buy."

And buy we do. We buy to the tune of an expected $1 billion in combined sales this year, and in doing so we make Cynthia Fedus, for one, very happy.

Fedus is the president and CEO of Victoria's Secret's catalog division, and she has a modest professional goal: "To sell lingerie and clothing that's well priced, good quality and fashion-right to absolutely every woman in America."

At any given moment, up to 300 "fashion consultants" at the catalog's new distribution center on Stelzer Road are logging telephone orders for black satin bras and purple lace bodysuits. The orders are being processed with up-to-the-minute technology in a facility the size of 23 football fields.

In New York, production is under way on the latest of 15 annual issues of the catalog, to be mailed to millions of eager subscribers.

Can there be a woman—or man—alive who hasn't heard of Victoria's Secret? The catalog subscription list is confined mostly to the United States, and there are no stores outside the country, but Fedus recently encountered a young fan during a 2 am refueling stop at an airport in Gander, Newfoundland.

"When she found out who I worked for she went wild," Fedus relates. "She said, 'I love it! I wish I could get the catalog here!' "

Victoria's Secret catalog and its fraternal twin, Victoria's Secret stores, are two of the foundations, so to speak, of the Columbus-based Limited Inc., and we all know about chairman Les Wexner's uncanny ability to separate consumers from their dollars.

Fifty Victoria's Secret stores were scheduled to open during 1992, for a total of 557 nationwide. By mid to late decade the stores' annual gross sales are expected to reach $1.5 billion, says Al Dietzel, vice president of public affairs for the Limited.

Catalog sales this year will be an estimated $400 million, according to Dietzel.

By 1996-'97, Fedus says, "I want a billion dollars," and industry predictions are that she'll get it, despite the catalog's admittedly spotty customer-satisfaction record and despite a racy—some would say offensive—image that the company has worked hard to tone down.

The catalog and the stores are separate entities, Fedus emphasizes. Her counterpart at the store division is Grace Nichols.

"The timing and execution of a catalog business varies a lot from a traditional retail business," Fedus says. "We have never felt that it was smart to force the two to be identical. One of them would be hurt."

The two divisions carry only a small amount of duplicate merchandise. The catalog offers dresses, sportswear and some household items; the stores have bridal accessories and trinkets such as picture frames, perfume atomizers and a line of bath products whose labels proclaim "Victoria's Secret: Renowned purveyors to the most refined ladies."

Victoria's Secret seduces the most refined ladies and men alike by appealing to a basic instinct—and it's not the urge to wear underwear. Wexner has been quoted as agreeing with a more crudely crafted statement by Charles Revson of Revlon Inc. that—in so many words—girls just want to have fun, and boys want to have it with them.

Accordingly, the stores display their wares in a perfumed environment that treads the line between Victorian boudoir and Victorian bordello. Columbus has four, at City Center, Eastland, Northland and Kingsdale.

Step into any of them, and you'll find gold-trimmed bras and teddies on padded hangers, frothy beaded nightgowns, baskets of frilly garters, purple satin jammies draped across plush chaise longues. Antique-style wardrobes burst with polka-dot nightshirts and floral-printed robes; panties adorn the walls like brilliant butterflies. The panties are delicate, they're ruffled, they're gauzy; some appear to have fins, like a '57 Chevy.

"We appeal to our customer's sense of whimsy," says Grace Nichols in the company's 1991 annual report.

Riffling through these trifles is a giddy and pleasurable pastime, not unlike plucking flowers from a field ripe with color and aroma. In the dressing room, shielded behind pink, lacy curtains, surrounded by moiré wallpaper and illuminated by ornate frosted-glass fixtures, you gaze at yourself in an old-fashioned mirror and wonder, "What am I doing, and how much is it going to cost me?" But by that time, you're too far gone to care.

That's Victoria's secret. Sexy lingerie has an appeal both timeless (romance never goes out of style) and timely. Some fashion experts attribute today's renaissance to health awareness: women who've sweated their way to well-toned bodies want to show them off, at least to a select few. Others say it's the result of

power-suited, corporate-climbing women yearning to assert their femininity, albeit privately.

Bridal shower gifts account for many lingerie purchases, confides a sales associate at one Victoria's Secret store, and according to a former catalog employee, male tastes influence quite a few buyers. "Women will say, 'I'm getting such-and-such because my husband (or my boyfriend) liked it,' or, 'The guys in the office decided this one was sexiest,' " she says.

To adolescents selecting their first fancy bras, or to practical-minded types who usually grab a three-pack of Fruit of the Loom briefs at their local drugstore, Victoria's Secret may represent exotic, unknown territory. The catalog is a wish book of lush confections; the stores are a dream world where anyone with a few dollars can indulge in feel-good frippery.

"Surely those exotic, lean-limbed beauties have something to do with the fact that the Victoria's Secret catalog, even more so than the stores, has achieved truly mythic status."

Some women apparently spend more than a few dollars; otherwise, the company wouldn't tease us with a $145 silk bra that does only a fair job of constraining the model on the cover of one recent catalog. A matching bikini, "with flutter sides," is $115, and a one-size-fits-all silk blouse completes the set for a mere $495.

Beyond the high-ticket items up front, however, are plenty of $9 panties and $39 cotton pajamas (or "pyjamas," as the catalog spells it; Anglophilia is a hallmark of Victoria's Secret). Only the models are consistently top-of-the-line throughout.

Surely those exotic, lean-limbed beauties have something to do with the fact that the Victoria's Secret catalog, even more so than the stores, has achieved truly mythic status.

Scads of rumors surround the catalog. *One of the models is a transsexual!* ("To the best of our knowledge all of our models are bona fide females and have been from day one," says Fedus; other sources would beg to differ.)

Male cross-dressers love the catalog! (True, according to a former employee who says she daily fielded calls from cross-dressers. "You can joke with a lot of them about it," she says.)

Lots of guys subscribe to the catalog—

Seasons Greetings

'Twas the night before Christmas
and all through the place,
the boss was in fits
with a frown on his face.

"I've got 5,000 mailers
and typing to complete,
but with sick leave and vacations,
I'm up a creek."

He ranted and raved
and raised such confusion,
'til he found in the White Pages
the perfect solution.

The answer, he deemed,
was his ADIA rep,
quality temporaries
that he couldn't forget.

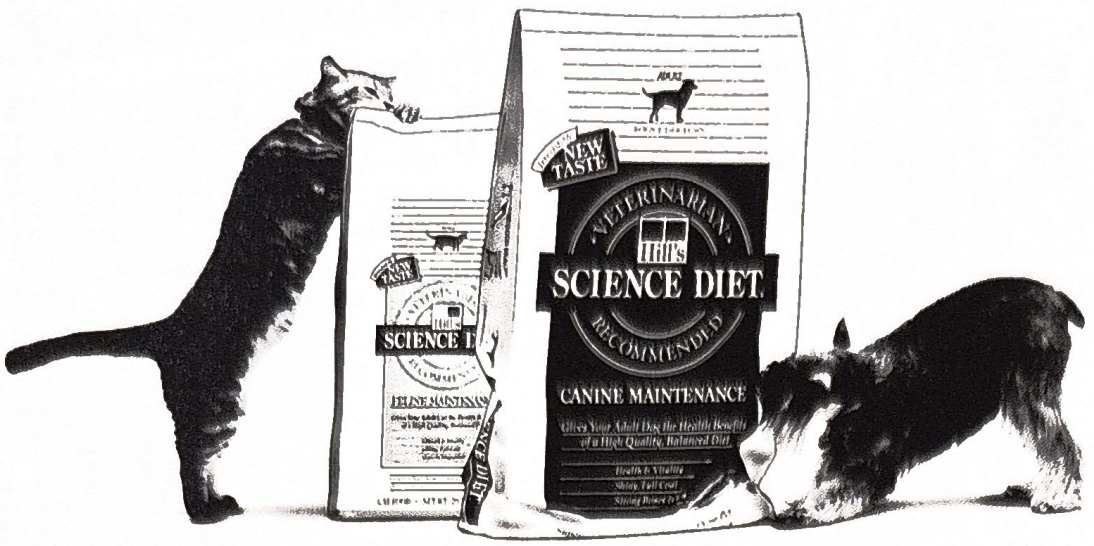
He dialed the number
and soon was amazed,
temps at his doorstep
the very next day.

So the mailers were sent,
the typing was swift,
which freed up his time
for those last-minute gifts.

With the last temp gone
and the workload done,
the boss then realized
why ADIA's number one.

So remember this story
when you're in a bind,
ADIA comes through for you
time after time.

ADIA *Temporary / Permanent Placement Services*



The irresistible new taste of Science Diet® is turning Petland® pets into animals.

Available at the Petland stores listed below

PETLAND EAST
Hamilton Road Shopping Center
(614) 866-6661

PETLAND ZANESVILLE
Colony Square Mall
(614) 454-2370

PETLAND ARLINGTON
4729 Reed Road
(614) 451-0658

PETLAND CHILLICOTHE
K-Mart Shopping Center
(614) 773-1982

PETLAND WEST
4626 W. Broad Street
(614) 878-2583

PETLAND LANCASTER
1639 N. Memorial Drive
(614) 653-3000

PETLAND TOWN & COUNTRY
Town & Country Shopping Center
(614) 235-2205

VETERINARIAN Hill's SCIENCE DIET RECOMMENDED
The first choice of veterinarians should be your choice, too.

Petland

And here's an irresistible offer!

Valuable Coupon

Buy any Science Diet® product at Petland and receive 10% off any regular priced item.

Participating Petland stores only. Offer not valid on sale merchandise.
Offer expires December 31, 1992.

and not for the interviews! (There are, of course, no interviews; and men make up a very small percentage of the subscription list, according to Fedus.)

Some men with a genuine intent to buy may take refuge in the catalog because they feel intimidated by the stores' breathlessly feminine atmosphere, an ironic development considering that the original aim was to make the American male more at ease in his occasional quest for frilly undies. Shopping by catalog can be painless and relatively anonymous alternative.

Whatever the reason, in little more than a decade the Victoria's Secret catalog has turned into something much more than the sum of its well-endowed parts. To many minds, it's the epitome of tasteful pornography.

The higher-ups at the Limited would rather we didn't say that, even if plenty of other people do. Wave a Victoria's Secret catalog around the office and listen to the reactions. "Sexy," "racy," "offensive," "soft porn," say the women, while reaching for their credit cards. "Ahhhhh," say the men.

"I don't enjoy looking at it," sniffs one Columbus woman. "The lingerie is beautiful, but I don't like the way they pose the women."

"The models must work out," muses her male co-worker, studying the same catalog but obviously off on a tangent of his own.

Back at Limited headquarters, Al Dietzel claims he is unaware of the catalog's salacious reputation.

"Would you be surprised if I told you that Victoria's Secret catalog is one of the largest catalog sales companies in the world?" he counters.

Not at all, Al.

"Would you be surprised to know that it's one of the most profitable? "

Certainly not.

"Would you be surprised to know that hundreds and hundreds of women—mothers, grandmothers—buy from Victoria's Secret catalog and have a completely opposite point of view than . . . that it's racy, hot, soft porn?"

If you say so, Al. But what's your point?

"The image of Victoria's Secret is very important," Dietzel says. "It enjoys an excellent reputation, [and we] go to great lengths not to hurt that reputation."

Certainly a good reputation is important to any business. But remember last year's William Kennedy Smith rape case, where much ado was made about the alleged victim's little nothings—and specifically about the fact that her black panties were purchased from Victoria's Secret?

What about the piece last year in the *Washington Post* that said the catalog "is widely considered by men to be the sexiest publication in America today"? How about all those nudge-and-wink articles that have appeared in *Vogue* and *Mademoiselle*, among others?

Besides, a nudge is as good as a wink in a business built on innuendo. In olden days, Cole Porter reminds us, just a glimpse of stocking was looked on as something shocking. Even today, when pop icon Madonna flaunts outrageous underwear as outerwear and magazine ads feature the woman next door posing proudly in her Jockey bras and panties, lingerie remains fundamentally private, alluringly mysterious. Everybody knows those wisps of silk and satin and lace are there, but not many people talk about them.

One company that did talk, Frederick's of Hollywood, thrived for 40 years on merchandise and a reputation considerably harder edged than Victoria's Secret's. Sales slumped in the mid '80s for the first time in Frederick's history, and while the downturn was blamed on the recession, things improved after the company whitewashed its hooker-haven image.

Also in the mid '80s came the parade of Victoria's Secret catalogs that current company executives would rather we forget. A typical issue would feature a tacky array of anatomically correct women posed suggestively with other women or with equally unclothed men ("Couples grappling in shabby little vignettes," as one magazine article, titled "Catalog of Desire," put it).

Some of the photos in a 1987 sample are provocative—a woman in a teddy atop a nude man—and some are simply ludicrous, like the shot of an Amazon with mile-high hair, pearl necklace and white sunglasses standing astride a muscular, swimsuited companion. Clad in white lace bustier, string bikini, seamed stockings and white high heels, she looks like a reject from *The Rocky Horror Picture Show.*

This particular issue's back pages show an assortment of sportswear, but it's worn by models whose bare shoulders and plunging necklines reveal how much they disdain the very items they're trying to sell in the front of the catalog.

"I felt that it was an extraordinarily sexist portrayal of women's products," says Jo-Von Tucker, a Massachusetts-based catalog consultant who has kept an eye on Victoria's Secret over the years both as a customer and out of professional curiosity. "The general feeling that I came away with after studying the catalog at the time was that it was bordering on offensive, soft porn," Tucker says. "I stopped ordering from them. I didn't like the merchandise or the depictions."

"I think the problem was that they began to produce a book to please a man, when in fact their customer was a woman," she says.

To a degree, Victoria's Secret was indeed founded to please men. The stores were started in 1977 by Californian Roy Raymond, who had discovered that many males were embarrassed by their occasional forays into department store lingerie aisles.

Raymond's solution was to create a comfortable atmosphere replete with soft lighting and antique furniture and staffed with discreetly helpful salespeople. The concept appealed to both men and women, as did the name Raymond chose, an intriguing juxtaposition of hidden, forbidden fruit and dumpy, frumpy Queen Victoria, the eponymous symbol of sexual suppression.

Victoria's Secret has changed its catalog over the years: the Christmas, 1992, version.

By 1982, Raymond had a handful of San Francisco-area stores, a mail-order catalog and gross sales of some $7 million. That's when Wexner came a-wooing with a million dollars' worth of Limited stock, and Raymond succumbed. He stayed with the company as president for a few years, then moved on to other things.

In the Raymond years, says Tucker, Victoria's Secret and the catalog offered designer names and unabashedly upscale lingerie that presented a clear-cut alternative to Frederick's, the only catalog competitor at the time.

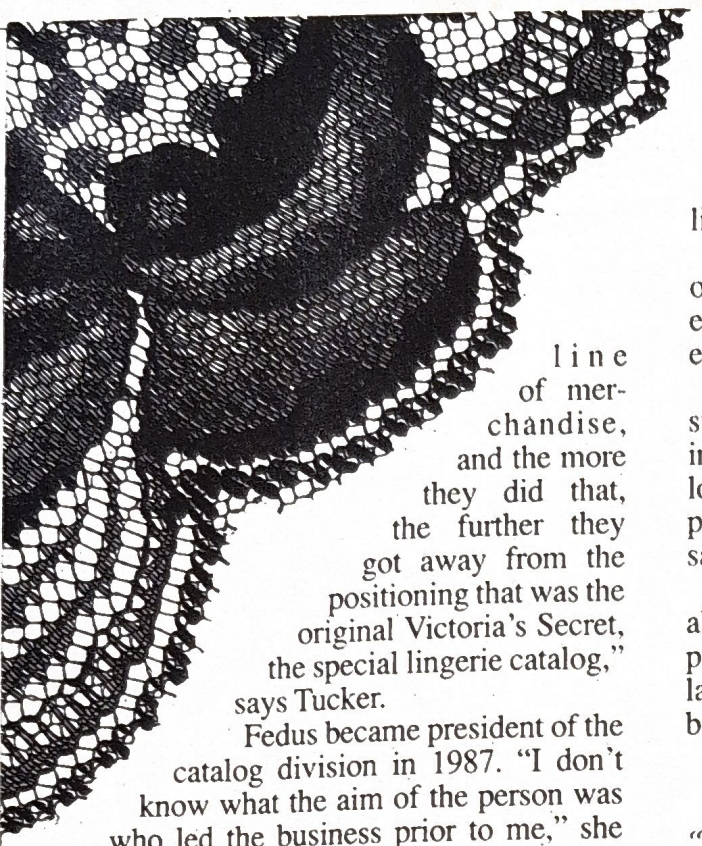
"I found that it was a refreshing catalog with some very high-quality offerings for the money," Tucker remembers. "The lingerie was sexy but also quite beautiful."

"The catalog was one of the few places that you could buy fine lingerie of silk and natural fibers by Christian Dior and other names like that through the mail," she says.

After the Limited took over, Tucker says, "the merchandise began to slip drastically. It was cheaper, but I didn't feel that you even got what you paid for. The presentation itself changed; that's when you began to see the depictions that were very offensively sexy."

"During that period of time I saw them beginning to market more on their averages and less on their differences," Tucker says. Marketing on averages means bringing everything down to the lowest common denominator, Tucker explains. "It's a patronizing kind of presentation of merchandise and visual communication, like talking down to your customer."

In Tucker's opinion, that translated into "a cheaper look about the catalog" itself. And, "They began to add a broader



line of merchandise, and the more they did that, the further they got away from the positioning that was the original Victoria's Secret, the special lingerie catalog," says Tucker.

Fedus became president of the catalog division in 1987. "I don't know what the aim of the person was who led the business prior to me," she says diplomatically. "I just felt that the catalog could be more appealing if we targeted women. If you target such a book to customers other than women it takes on a very different tone."

Customers other than women? Those would be men, right? Perhaps not coincidentally, Fedus's three predecessors at the catalog were men. (Her executive committee now consists of six women and two men.)

Fedus says she began to alter the catalog's image immediately after she became president. "I believe women buy lingerie for themselves, and I believe women buy their clothing for themselves and for other women. We took that philosophy—make the catalog appealing to women—and rolled it out."

"Clearly, it's been a successful strategy," she says. "In 1988 the business took a great leap forward in terms of both sales and profits, and it's been on a very healthy growth track ever since."

In the catalog's present incarnation, less than half of any given issue is devoted to voluptuous beauties in high heels bursting out of stretch lace bras and tiny satin bikinis. What there is, however, is choice, and it's still right up front.

The back pages feature some of the same models now demurely clothed in suits and sweaters and trying to convince us that they're earnest career gals or nature lovers. The middle part offers a few hunky men in paisley boxer shorts, a selection of sheets and comforters and, of all things, a magazine rack—to hold all those collector's editions of the catalog, no doubt.

The company continues to sport a pseudo-British air. The catalog maintains a London office, for one thing, and at the catalog order number in this country—1-800-HER-GIFT—a veddy British female voice guides you through the intricacies of the telephone system before turning you over to a clearly Ohio born-and-bred "fashion consultant."

"In another company the fashion consultants might be called phone order takers," says Fedus. "We didn't want to do that. We want them to feel like they're part of the fashion business."

"They put you through 40 hours of rigorous training at first," recalls one former employee. "You know every stitch of every bra."

Periodic fashion shows allow the consultants to study the items they'll be selling. "If a color is slightly off in the catalog—if it looks peach but it's really pink—you can alert the customer to that," says the former employee.

Victoria's Secret fashion consultants also must learn to juggle a variety of complaints, judging from a survey published last year in *Consumer Reports* that was based on comments from 155,000 respondents about 63 mail-order companies. The respondents put the catalog's women's clothing in the "worse" category in terms of merchandise being "not what expected" and with regard to problems involving ordering, delivery, shipping costs, billing, lack of and condition of merchandise and fit. Delays in back orders were rated average.

"In the mid '80s came the parade of Victoria's Secret catalogs that current company executives would rather we forget. A typical issue would feature a tacky array of anatomically correct women posed suggestively with other women or with equally unclothed men."

The lingerie and sleepwear lines fell in the worse category for problems and back-order delay and between average and worse for "not what expected."

"We had quality that I was not proud of," Fedus admits. "Today I'm not 100 percent proud of it, but I'm much happier. It's a matter of discipline, of finding other suppliers."

"Quality—and improving it—is one of the reasons our back-order situation has been worse than I would like. We have refused many shipments from manufacturers who didn't understand that the rules of the game had changed."

"Last December, when the phones were ringing off the hook and I was berserk because the back orders were high, it hurt really badly to stand in the distribution center and say, 'Turn that shipment around,' " Fedus says. "But we made the decision that it is far better to disappoint a customer by shipping her something later than we promised than by shipping her something that is of poor quality on time."

"The other part of the back-order problem is that the business has grown consistently more rapidly then we expected," says Fedus. "It seems like every season we would step up the plan, buy more goods, and the sales would come in higher than we expected."

"The problem will never go away, although we're going to continue to work on it," she says. "The simple fact is that you never know what the best sellers are going to be until you mail the catalog. We can guess, we can anticipate; then we make the book, and lo and behold some item in a little picture is a huge best seller and takes us totally by surprise."

Another surprise, this time on the customer end, was detailed last spring on a New York City consumer advocacy television show and in a later article in the *Washington Post*. Two sisters who lived within 60 miles of each other in the New York area had received Victoria's Secret catalogs with different prices for identical merchandise.

It's called price testing, and it's not unusual or unfair, according to direct marketing industry officials. Shoppers often become suspicious of cut-rate prices that sound too good to be true; higher prices sometimes seem more legitimate. Price testing can reveal which prices get better results and what the market will bear.

The problem was that Victoria's Secret's handling of the test was "very sloppy," says Jo-Von Tucker. "For obvious reasons, you never do conflicting pricing within the same geographic area. You run the risk of infuriating consumers, and that's not smart."

According to the *Post*, company employees stonewalled one of the sisters when she called to complain—mistake number two. Eventually Fedus issued a statement: "We have instituted system changes at Victoria's Secret catalog that will automatically charge the customer the lowest price in all future test offerings."

Victoria's Secret catalog may have lost itself two customers, and while some companies would write the discontented sisters off, Fedus probably isn't above personally knocking on their doors to try to lure them back.

After all, this is the woman who set herself the goal of peddling pastel panties and push-up bras to every woman in America.

"I may be an old lady by the time I achieve it," laughs Fedus, who's in her late 30s.

Relax, Cynthia. It won't take nearly that long. ■

Lynne M. Bonenberger is an editor with the Ohio State University Press.

BY HERB COOK JR.

Investing in the state education bank

In saving for your kid's college education, can you trust the Ohio Tuition Trust Authority?

Thousands of Ohioans will be reaching for their checkbooks in December, and not just to buy those last-minute stocking stuffers. They'll be hustling to buy peace of mind for themselves and a college education for their kids. The Ohio Tuition Trust Authority is holding its annual buy-now-and-beat-the-price-increase sale. For $3,950, OTTA will sell you one year of tuition and fees at any of the state's 13 public colleges and universities, redeemable anytime after September, 1994. Plunk down $15,800 and you can cover 10-year-old Tammy's entire undergraduate career (well, four years of it at least), even though she won't actually move into a freshman dormitory until the year 2000.

But hurry! The price of a year's tuition goes up to $4,250 on New Year's Day, then to $4,350 next July. If you miss the Blue Light Holiday Special, you'll regret it.

Or will you?

Before you drain your bank accounts and head for the trust authority's office at 62 E. Broad St., there are some things you should know:

• OTTA's "Guaranteed Tuition Program" isn't guaranteed at all. In fact it isn't even called that any more. It's now the "Prepaid Tuition Program."

• So far, OTTA tuition credits have

MIKE MERRIMAN/BYCUS ASSOC.

At a meeting of the Ohio Tuition Trust Authority's executive committee. From left are Bill Reimert of Milliman & Robertson, OTTA's actuarial firm; OTTA executive director Barbara Jennings, and OTTA board member Mark Weinberg, a political science professor at Ohio University.

been a pretty poor investment—unless your kid is headed for Miami University. Students who used OTTA credits to pay Ohio State University tuition this fall actually lost money on the deal.

• If tuitions keep going through the roof and the stock market does a long-term dumpster dive, nearly 30,000 Ohioans who have purchased credits might wind up getting just their money back, minus expenses. College tuition? Good luck.

Born in the sky's-the-limit upmarket of the late '80s, OTTA is one of a handful of state and quasi-state agencies created to give parents relief from the nagging fear that when their kids are ready for college, their bankbooks won't be. Tuition rates for four years at a state university have been doubling every 10 years in Ohio—from $2,700 in 1970 to $5,500 in 1980, $11,000 in 1990 and a projected $22,000 at the turn of the century. A shrewdly managed investment portfolio could have kept pace with those increases in the '70s and '80s, but few families have the savvy or the capital to play the stock market on their own. And what if the market crashes just as Johnny's starting his senior year in high school?

Enter Paul Pfeifer, the Republican state senator from Bucyrus. Pfeifer wanted to do something to help Ohioans cope with escalating college costs. If he could keep his name in the media as he geared up to run for Ohio attorney general in 1990, so much the better.

After analyzing a tuition guarantee plan instituted in Michigan in 1986, Pfeifer introduced his own bill in the Ohio Senate in 1987. It took a couple of years of fierce lobbying, but in 1989 the Ohio Tuition Trust Authority became an "essential state service." In May, 1990, OTTA sold its first tuition credits, and that July Barbara Jennings became OTTA's executive director at a salary of $65,000 and set about building something from nothing.

Jennings, a former investment broker and college fund-raiser who's married to former OSU president Ed Jennings, knew OTTA would have to sink or swim entirely on its own. The state had given the new agency its name, but not its financial support. "According to our state constitution," Jennings says, "Ohio cannot promise to pay out of future funds beyond the current biennium." That would make a state guarantee of OTTA's obligations unconstitutional, since many purchasers won't be using their tuition credits for 10 years or more.

But what about the language in OTTA's first brochure? "You purchase units of future tuition called tuition credits," it said. "This will guarantee that OTTA will pay the tuition and fees at any Ohio public college or university no matter what happens to these prices in the future. It takes 100 tuition credits to guarantee one full academic year of tuition and fees."

Sure *sounds* like a guarantee. But the section of state law that created OTTA is clear: "Any claim for payment pursuant to a tuition payment contract shall be solely against the assets of the fund. No purchaser or beneficiary of tuition credits . . . shall have any claim against the general revenue or other funds of the authority of the state or against the funds of any state institution of higher education."

Was OTTA promising something it couldn't deliver? Not according to Paul Pfeifer. "I would still be using the word 'guarantee' if it were up to me," Pfeifer says. "We priced it intentionally so it could be guaranteed."

Other members of OTTA's nine-member board, however, grew increasingly nervous about the G-word. Last spring OTTA sought an opinion from the Ohio attorney general about the authority's legal exposure if it ever failed to deliver tuitions on schedule.

Use of the word "guarantee," wrote assistant attorney general Lauren Ross, "is legally permissible and is not misleading and inappropriate. . . . Nonetheless, if OTTA is unwilling to assume even this small risk, or if it wants to reduce the risk, it could delete and/or de-emphasize the terms 'guarantee' and 'guaranteed' in its printed materials."

"Students who used OTTA credits to pay Ohio State University tuition this fall actually lost money on the deal."

Which is precisely what OTTA has done. A new brochure, distributed since July, refers only to the "Prepaid Tuition Program," and specifically discloses that OTTA "is not backed by the full faith and credit of the State of Ohio."

Nobody will care about language, of course, as long as OTTA pays off. And for the 80 students who began using tuition credits this fall, OTTA delivered as promised. For 55 of those students, though, the OTTA credits have so far turned out to be a losing investment. That's because the credits they or their families purchased for $33 each in 1990 turned out to be worth less than $33 in 1992.

For the eight students attending OSU, for example, a credit is worth only $27.99 this year—1 percent of OSU's $2,799 tuition. That's a loss of 7 percent per year on the initial $33 investment. Their parents would have been better off keeping the tuition money under a mattress.

Only the 35 students attending Miami, Bowling Green, Kent State and the University of Cincinnati actually cashed in their credits for more than their cost. At Bowling Green and Cincinnati the investment return was marginal—less than 1 percent per year. A credit used at Kent State yielded about a 4 percent annual return. The only real winners were the 12 students who picked Miami—a large number of students than are using tuition credits at any other university. A $33 credit turned out to be worth $40.24 at Miami this fall—a 10.5 percent annual return on the investment.

"Right now the program to some extent works like a lottery," says Bill Remert, a partner in OTTA's actuarial firm Milliman & Robertson. "If you're lucky and your kid goes to an expensive school you're a winner in the lottery. But if your child goes to a lower-priced school, you're a loser."

Being winners no doubt pleased the parents of the new Miami freshmen, but the idea doesn't sit well with Peggy Ruhlin, a partner in the investment advisory firm of Budros & Ruhlin. "My main objection is that the parents of all the kids who are going to Ohio State are subsidizing the kids who are going to Miami," says Ruhlin. "I just don't think that's fair." That said, Ruhlin acknowledges, "I have recommended it to one client who has a daughter in high school. She gets top grades, she's very talented and her father and mother both graduated from Miami. I told them, 'Of anybody I know, you look like you might have the opportunity to cash in and make a good investment out of it.' "

Ruhlin's partner, Jim Budros, says OTTA's pricing policies and investment restrictions doom the trust fund to be a poor financial performer for most families: "Unless the parents were reasonably sure their kid was going to go to Miami, we would always recommend an investment allocation that would produce a superior return." Common stocks, Budros says, will substantially outperform OTTA's portfolio over the long haul.

True enough, says Jennings, whose résumé includes stints with two brokerage firms, but people shouldn't look at OTTA as if they were picking a mutual fund. "We've said all the way along we're not an investment," Jennings says. "We're a savings plan. We don't compete with Merrill Lynch. We compete with Reebok and Jordache and Nintendo. If people want quality of life for the kids, we say, hey, put some money aside for education, instead of for things."

So why have most people who bought credits in 1990 wound up losing money so far? Mostly it's because OTTA puts a whopping premium on the credit price—more than 35 percent this year—to handle several contingencies that have nothing to do with tuition rates. There's a $5 surcharge, for example, to cover federal income taxes OTTA may have to pay if the authority gets an unfavorable ruling from the Internal Revenue Service. OTTA applied in 1990 for tax-exempt status as a

ROMANCING THE STONE

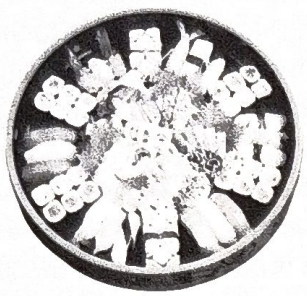
Diamonds, Pearls & Jade Sparkles Anew on Henderson Road

Diamonds, Pearls & Jade Inc., a guild jewelry store in Columbus for 10 years, has moved from Lane Avenue to spacious new quarters located in the Greentree Shopping Center on West Henderson Road next to Agler-Davidson and Kroger.

Sophia Prinz, Ph.D., owner and founder of the business and winner of three international design awards, said the new store will allow her to display an incredible assortment of diamonds and rare gemstones in exquisite one-of-a-kind and limited edition Designs by Sophia™. Specializing in the unique, DP&J features the finest pearls in all shapes, sizes and colors from South Seas black pearls to mauve and golden Biwa to white, grey and blue cultured Akoya pearls from Japan. The range of colored gems spans the rainbow from the quiet elegance of Colombian and Zambian emeralds and the fire of fine rubies to the dazzling spectrum of fancy sapphires in blues, pinks, yellows and purples. Fine diamonds add even more sparkle to the 14k and 18k gold creations. And if diamonds are your passion, you'll find DP&J's selection, quality and price a very pleasant surprise. Black opals, Italian cameos, vintage and antique jewelry from recent travels are also on display.

To celebrate the move to Greentree Center on Henderson Road, Diamonds, Pearls & Jade is combining their Grand Reopening with a fantastic Holiday Sale, going on now through Christmas.

NEW TOP 10
Fine Dining 1992
"One of the most appealing restaurants in Columbus"
Grumpy Gourmet, *Columbus Dispatch*
"Best sushi"
Columbus Alive



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state agency, but the IRS never has answered its letter.

In Michigan, though, the IRS answer was loud, clear and devastating. The Michigan Education Trust (MET) wasn't a state agency at all, the feds said. It was an investment fund and must pay taxes on its earnings. MET paid $29 million in taxes under protest, fought in federal court and lost. The decision wrecked MET's balance sheet and effectively put it out of business. The fund hasn't sold a tuition credit since October, 1991.

Even if the IRS follows the Michigan precedent and denies Ohio's request for tax exemption, says Paul Pfeifer, OTTA will survive. "We are very different from Michigan in terms of the way we priced ourselves," Pfeifer says. "Michigan was guaranteed to be a train wreck from day one because they priced it below prevailing tuition at the time. We knew they had underpriced their credits. We never wanted to run the risk of not being able to meet the commitment, and we knew the tax question was unsettled, so we priced it accordingly."

In addition to the tax surcharge, OTTA marks up credit prices to cover investment risk ($3.50), administrative costs ($1.25), and a "bias factor" reflecting the tendency of credit buyers to attend the state's most expensive colleges ($1.25). Those markups, Jennings says, should be sufficient to keep OTTA solvent.

More worrisome, Jennings told her board in October, is the specter of price resistance. At the current $39.50 credit price, most buyers will have to wait three years just to break even, let alone see a return on their credit purchases. "I get flak from the actuaries," Jennings says. "They say we should be charging more so there's more of a surplus in there. But at the same time people out there in the streets are saying, 'How come you're charging so much? We see what current tuition is, and you're charging us this kind of premium?' The job that we have to do as an agency is set a fair price that's going to give people a certain level of safety and comfort, but doesn't gouge them."

With weighted average tuition of $3,118 at Ohio's 13 public universities this school year, will parents pay $4,250 for a year's worth of future credits? Jennings and her board are betting OTTA's future that they will.

They're also betting that Public Employees Retirement System investment boss Bob McLaughlin, who invests OTTA's money, will keep OTTA's balance sheet looking strong. In the long run, McLaughlin told the OTTA board in October, he's optimistic. But for the next two or three years, he's making no guarantees.

"We've had some massive destructions in the stock market," McLaughlin says. "We could be in a two- to four-year bear market. Real estate has been in a bear market for five or 10 years. I would imagine for the next couple of years it's going to be very difficult for me to beat what these college costs are going up."

Does McLaughlin think OTTA makes sense as a way to prepay a child's college tuition? He's cautious. "I can give you 10 reasons why it will work and 10 reasons why it won't work," he says. "Some people in some years will be winners. Other people in other years will be losers."

McLaughlin has invested about half of OTTA's $59 million in government and corporate bonds. The rest is split evenly between stocks and money market investments. For all of 1992, McLaughlin says OTTA should earn about 8 percent on its portfolio—a good return in a bad market but still below the 9 percent tuition increase at state universities.

Is OTTA headed for insolvency? Not in the short term. As long as the authority can raise credit prices without hurting sales, it can keep ahead of the game. But it's a bit like playing musical chairs: If credit sales ever stop, someone could be left without a tuition check. "Based on our analysis," opined the actuaries from Milliman & Robertson after scrutinizing OTTA's June 30, 1992, balance sheet, "we estimate that, with the current level of funding, there is a 58 percent likelihood of the assets satisfying all tuition and expense obligations." In other words, four chances in 10 that OTTA *won't* pay off in full.

If all the dice come up snake eyes, at least one OTTA board member says he wouldn't hesitate to ask the state for help.

"In a crisis," says Matt Filipic, a vice chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents, "the state might feel a moral obligation, even if it has disavowed a legal obligation. Even though state law provides no absolute guarantee, I would vote to ask the General Assembly to stand behind the guarantees. I believe the state did incur a moral obligation."

Would Ohio legislators go along with an OTTA bailout? *Could* they do so without violating the state constitution? The program's legislative father, Paul Pfeifer, says he doesn't think it will come to that. If the plan becomes actuarily unsound, Pfeifer says, "you could close down future purchases and just pay off all the credits you have. . . . A better way for the General Assembly to do its job is to see to it that they properly fund higher education and keep a lid on fees."

Barbara Jennings points out that OTTA does have a surplus, even if it's not as big as the actuaries and her board members would like. "We are ongoing, and we have had a steady flow of sales despite the economy," Jennings says. "I'm optimistic that we're even going to do better once the economy turns around."

"Somebody says, 'Are you absolutely guaranteed?' I say, 'No, would you tell me what is?' " ■

Herb Cook Jr. is a senior editor of Columbus Monthly.

COLUMBUS MONTHLY'S FAVORITE DISHES OF 1992

12

What a banner year 1992 was for good eating! Our reviewers sat down to so many superb meals in the course of the year that they were anguished to have to choose only 12 dishes. For one thing, they named our first five-star restaurant this year: Rigsby's. It would have been easy to honor half a dozen items from Rigsby's alone. The classic onion and garlic soup, the fried green tomatoes with romanesco sauce and Gorgonzola cheese, the chicken Ala Mediterranean all came to mind. But they bravely stuck to the rule of no more than two dishes from any restaurant. Dishes are chosen from places they reviewed in 1992.

Then they fought over every choice. Tears nearly were shed over the loss of Spagio's smoked duck pizza. Hoster's wonderful meatloaf hung in until the end. Just the thought of the apple tart with cinnamon and caramel from David's on Main made mouths water. (The reviewers foolishly met at dinner time.) It was terrible to think of these heavenly foods as mere runners-up. But our reviewers had a job to do. As the clock struck 7 pm, they completed the judging and sprinted for the door. After all, there were reservations to be made, new dishes to be eaten.

BON APPETIT.

BY ADRIENNE BOSWORTH, JOHN MARSHALL AND BEN VIVANT

PHOTOGRAPHED BY PAUL POPLIS

1

Salt cod/potato fritters

Rogaby's

How could something so unassuming be so good? Maybe it's the delicate flavor of salt cod with fresh mashed potatoes, or the contrasting textures of feathery lightness on the inside and crispness on the outside. The winter version of this dish is presented with a tomato saffron coulis and a mound of turmeric-marinated vegetables.

2

Lamb loin with ratatouille

Spargo

A simple, but great, dish: the perfection of the lamb is in the quality of the meat and the care in the cooking. Roasted to a medium to medium-rare turn, this lamb is presented in slices splayed around a timbale of ratatouille. The lamb is dressed with some of its delicious rosemary-flavored cooking juices.

3

Wedding soup

Paul's Pantry

The exceptional goodness of this wedding soup starts with the chicken broth, which is rich with chicken flavor. There it is filled with greens and tiny soup pasta, and the miniature meatballs that are standard in wedding soup but often omitted. This is an honest, hearty soup that depends on good basic ingredients and lots of them, and this version comes through splendidly.

Black walnut torte shell

Hamilton's Cuisine

Sparkly Chez Nous fashions [illegible] crisp, delicate walnut shell to hold its luscious fillings. In this dessert they used to flavor the pastry, turning the shell, or basket, which is filled with mixed fresh berries. Then the dessert is [illegible] a velvety Anglaise flavored with Grand Marnier and marked with raspberry purée. A treat for the eye as well as the taste.

4

Pecans with pecan and kiwi cream

Hamilton's Cuisine

[illegible] and delicately [illegible] pecan tuile is layered with sprinkled [illegible] and kiwi. It is served with a kiwi half, poppet sauce and a [illegible] by a piece of kiwi slices and grated [illegible] and a slice of goat cheese baked in flaky phyllo dough. The combination of flavors and textures is sublime.

7

Wild mushroom pizza

Figlio

An out-of-the-ordinary combination of ingredients that works out-of-the-ordinarily well. This pizza is topped with shiitake and crimini mushrooms sautéed in garlic butter, along with Gorgonzola and fontina cheeses, pine nuts and green onions, then baked in Figlio's wood-fired oven. A real treat in the gourmet pizza category for the adventuresome eater.

8

Three-grain salad

David's on Main

David's three-grain salad has changed! It no longer is a plate with three timbales of grains. The current incarnation consists of a timbale of three-grain tabbouleh (made of couscous, basmati rice and bulgur wheat) served with a hummus of chickpeas and fava beans with red chilies and a cucumber salad with feta cheese and yogurt. They float on a sea of grape leaf pesto.

Shrimp egg rolls

Bexley's Monk

We're seeing more and more forays into Asian cooking by occidental restaurants. Sometimes the results are first-rate. An excellent starter, these egg rolls are delicately crisp on the outside, not oily, and stuffed with crunchy vegetables and shrimp. Served with a heady soy and sesame oil sauce, they're spicy enough to interest even a tired palate.

10

Flank Steak Matahambre

Tapatio

This south-of-the-border creation translates as "murdered hunger." In this case, hunger is killed by a flank steak rolled around cilantro, chilies and pumpkin seeds, then cooked to order. The tomatoey sauce repeats the cilantro and chili flavors. This is a dish in which a number of powerful ingredients work extremely well together. Even the pumpkin seeds make a statement.

11

Lemon meringue pistachio tart

Bexley's Monk

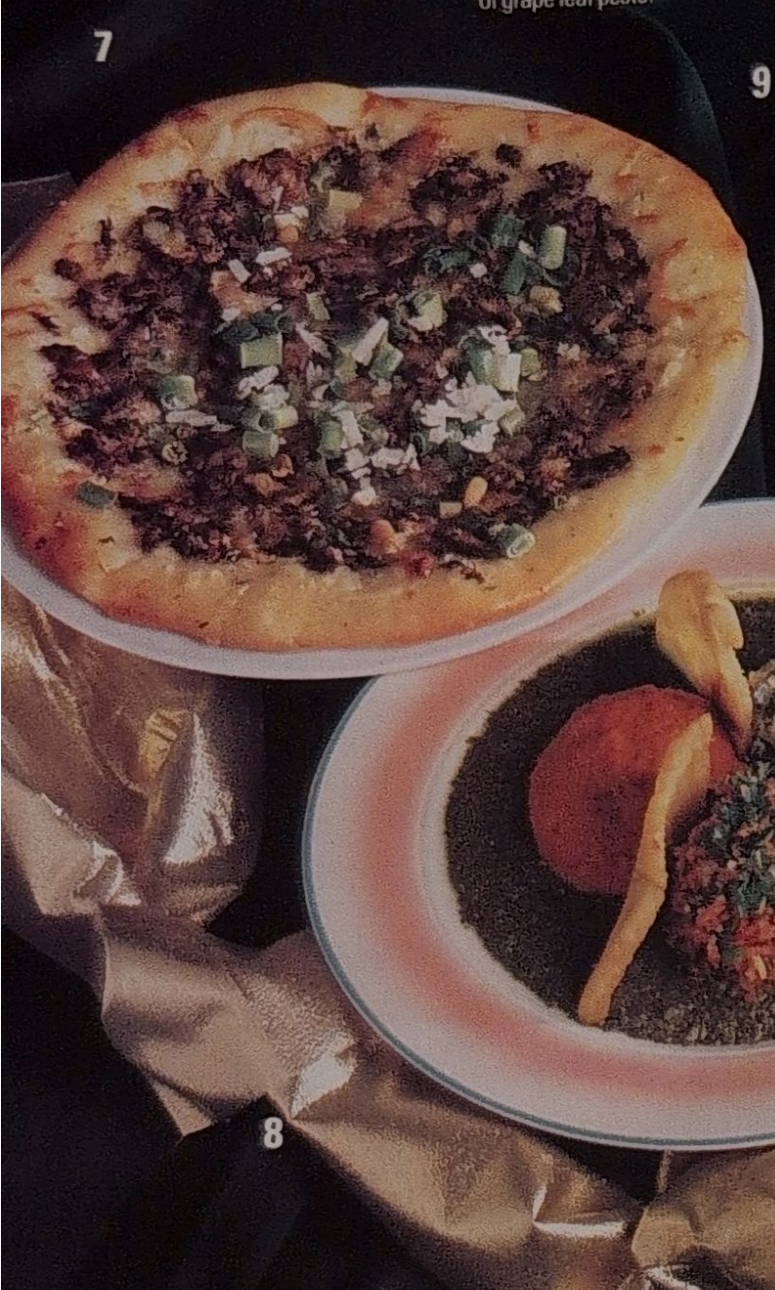
Lemon is one of the great dessert flavors. Here it is combined with aromatic pistachios in an attractive individual tart topped with meringue. It is served chilled on a bed of crème Anglaise, with raspberry purée hearts. Like a lemon meringue pie in an evening gown and jewels.

12

Mezzaluna di zucca (pumpkin ravioli)

Baci

Perish the thought of pumpkin pie! This is pumpkin as you won't recognize it, a part of Northern Italian cuisine. Here it is the filling for "half moon" raviolis, which are served with a cream sauce enlivened with Thai chilies and shiitake mushrooms. The sauce has bite, but also a deep mushroom flavor that pairs well with the slightly sweet pumpkin filling. A rich dish that may make you rethink your notions about Italian food. ■



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

from BORDERS BOOK SHOP

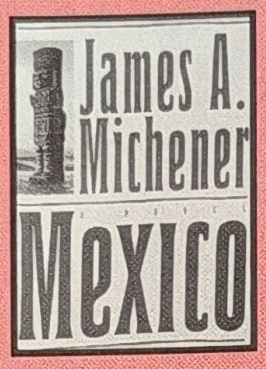
Christmas in the Heartland

by Marcia Adams. Crown Books, $25. *$22.50 at Borders.*

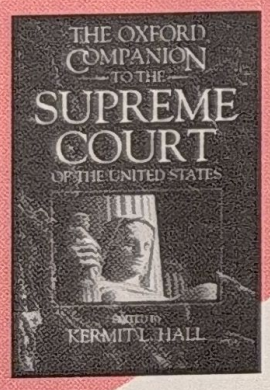
Victorian tree ornaments, a Christmas gingerbread bowl, gourmet bird wreaths, an after-dinner holiday reading....Sharing dozens of recipes, crafts, and family traditions, Marcia Adams brings the joy of the holiday season to your home.

Mexico

by James A. Michener. Random House, $25. *$22.50 at Borders.*



Journalist Norman Clay arrives in Mexico City to cover the decisive dual between two celebrated matadors, and to learn more about his family history, a genealogy dotted with a native Indian queen, a conquistador priest, and a Confederate expatriate. In the telling, *Mexico* spans more than five centures of the country's glorious and turbulent past.



The Oxford Companion to the Supreme Court of the United States

ed. by Kermit L. Hall. Oxford University Press, $45. *$40.50 at Borders.*

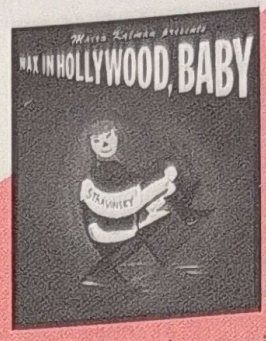
Valuable for both lay and professional readers, the *Oxford Companion* is a complete guide to the Supreme Court: the justices, prominent judges, and influential presidents; the cases and major issues; the Constitutional amendments; and more. Hall also includes illuminating essays on Constitutional interpretation, the political process, and Court history. With more than four hundred entries, the *Oxford Companion* is a treasure trove.

Party Food: Small & Savory

by Barbara Kafka. William Morrow, $25. *$22.50 at Borders.*

From the elegant (smoked salmon mousse) to the basic (fresh tomatillo salsa), Barbara Kafka offers more than 400 mouth-watering finger food recipes. With stunning color photographs, *Party Food* makes the perfect host or hostess gift—especially if that person is you!

Espresso-ly for you....Borders' Espresso Bar now offers hot mulled cider and sandwiches in addition to our usual selection of pastries, coffees, and other hot and cold beverages.



Max in Hollywood, Baby

by Maira Kalman. Viking, $15. *$13.50 Borders.*

First there was *Max Makes a Million*, t[he] *La-La (Max in Love)*. Now in *Max in* [Hollywood, *Baby*, that hip poetry penning pooch [with] new wife, Crepes Suzette, have hit [the] time—Hollywood. Synchopated, hi[p] cool, Max is happenin'.

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The Art Pack

by Christopher Frayling, Helen Frayling, and Ron Van der Meer. Alfred A. Knopf, $40. *$36 at Borders.*

This fascinating introduction to art lets you experience the artist's use of color, composition, and perspective. Full of pop-ups, pull-outs, a mobile, and more, *The Art Pack* also includes an audio discussion of twenty great paintings. Art history was never this much fun!

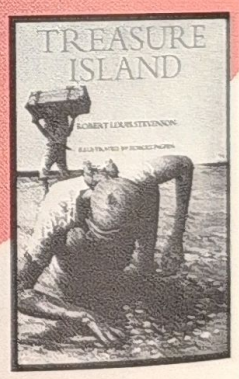
Smithsonian Frontiers of Flight

by Jeffrey L. Ethell. Crown Books, $40. *$36 at Borders.*

From Kitty Hawk to Cape Canaveral, Ethell celebrates the great milestones in aviation history. Featuring more that 250 photographs, *Smithsonian Frontiers of Flight* is a handsome companion to the 13-part Disney Channel series.

Treasure Island

by Robert Louis Stevenson, illustrated by Robert Ingpen. Viking, $20. *$18 at Borders.*



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BY JEAN P. KELLY

The captured moments of George Bellows

Columbus's biggest gift to art, realist painter George Bellows, returns home in a retrospective show.

He made good at anything to which he turned his hand."

So wrote Columbus resident Fred Cornell in 1925 to describe lifelong friend, artist, athlete, "all 'round good fellow" and home-town-boy-made-good, George Wesley Bellows. The occasion was Bellows's death from appendicitis at age 42, an untimely end to a native son's brief but prolific career. The Columbus expatriate had become one of his generation's most eloquent realist painters, turning his Midas touch to every subject he encountered and every technique he attempted. With poignant portraits, gritty genre scenes and lively landscapes, Bellows distinguished himself as a true American master.

And he still holds that title today, as demonstrated by *The Paintings of George Bellows*, a nationally touring retrospective exhibition of 60 works spanning the artist's career that is currently on display at the Columbus Museum of Art through Jan. 3. Organized by the Amon Carter Museum in Fort Worth, Texas, and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and made possible locally by a grant from Nationwide Insurance Companies, this powerful collection of paintings pays tribute to the artist's remarkable versatility in subject and style. Two satellite exhibitions, organized by the Columbus Museum, explore his work as a printmaker and his life in Columbus.

In many ways, it is difficult to separate the dynamic work of Bellows the artist from the dynamic life of Bellows the man. Almost from the moment of his birth Aug. 12, 1882, the only child of the marriage of a widowed builder-architect and a 44-year-old almost-spinster became a larger-than-life personality, a talented doodler and a consummately American success story. He excelled in sports, playing baseball and basketball at Central High School (designed and built by his father) and then at Ohio State. At the university, he also was a member of the Glee Club, art editor for the *Makio* yearbook and a well-liked, good-natured student. Almost every page of the 1903 and 1904 yearbooks, on display in the *George Bellows's Columbus* portion of the exhibition, boasts Bellows illustrations, drawings, cartoons, caricatures of university faculty, each demonstrating the incredible versatility and adroitness that would serve the artist well throughout his entire career.

It was not long before the blossoming Bellows outgrew the constraints of his home life and home town. Over the protestations of his strict, conservative Methodist father, he skipped his junior-year exams and set out to pursue artistic fame and fortune in New York City. There he enrolled in the New York School of Art, coming under the tutelage of William Merritt Chase, one of the leading American Im-

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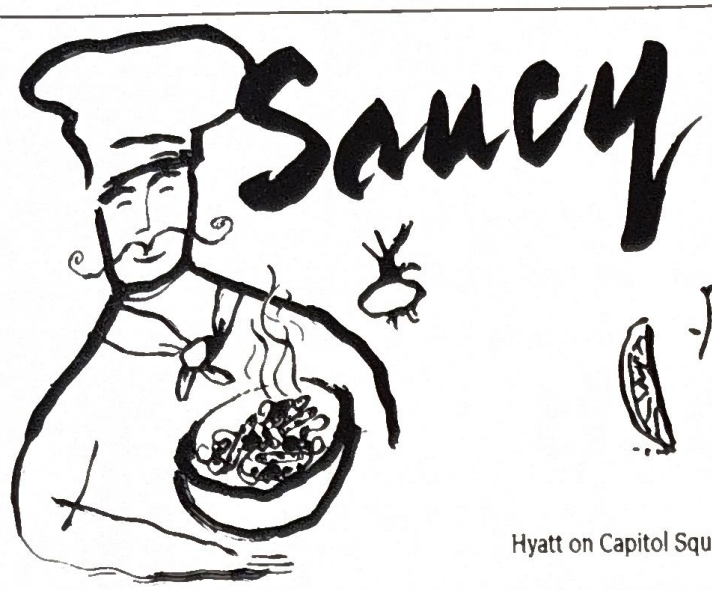
"Cliff Dwellers": New York's teeming street life.



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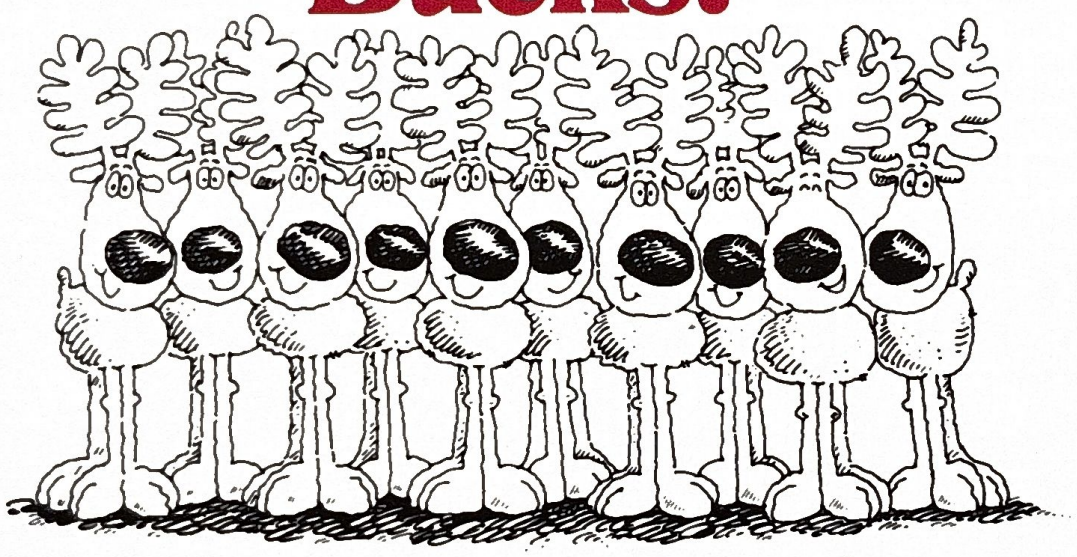

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pressionist painters, and Cincinnati native Robert Henri, an artist whose humanism and liberal democratic aesthetics eventually revolutionized turn-of-the-century American art. Bellows took to the bustling city and Henri's weekly discussions of art, politics and philosophy with characteristic vigor. "My life begins at this point," he wrote a friend.

With the insatiable thirst of an impressionable Midwesterner, Bellows drank in all of New York—the real New York and the masses—and with Henri's encouragement, expressed his views on canvas. One of his earliest attempts was the highly successful "River Rats," a painting of six children skinny-dipping in one of New York's polluted rivers. It was a scene that was commonplace in the city, but one rarely deemed appropriate for artists of the day. But Henri and a group of untraditional painters, including William Glackens, George Luks and John Sloan in addition to Bellows, reveled in these seamy, everyday scenes of city life. Because of their gritty subject matter, the movement became known as the Ashcan School.

While some called "River Rats" "sordid," it did earn the young artist a place in the 1907 annual at the National Academy and one of his first professional successes. He would return to public bathing as a subject several times in later years, most immediately in 1907 with "Forty-Two Kids." Working-class boys lounge, smoke and dive off a dilapidated dock into the grimy water. Infused with a warm light, the painting manages to convey both a sense of the tenement youngsters' vulnerability and an appreciation for the simple pleasure of their recreation—hallmarks of the Ashcan philosophy.

Bucking what he called "the foolish demand that pictures be beautiful," Bellows continued to be fascinated with the bustle and raw vitality of his adopted city. "New York," a 1911 painting, is a riot of colors and activity where buildings, trees, horse-drawn wagons and rushing pedestrians crowd the scene. "Cliff Dwellers" likewise packs the picture frame with life in the high-rise tenements, teeming with trolley cars, street urchin children and laundry lines overhead. The "Lone Tenement" captures the eerie emptiness of an urban environment where looming buildings dwarf the dark figures on the street below.

"I paint New York because I live in it and because the most essential thing for me to paint is the life about me, the things I feel today and that are part of the life today," Bellows explained in a 1915 interview in the *New York Sun*.

A part of life in New York that inspired the artist's most well-known genre paintings was the working-class sport of boxing, which Bellows once characterized as "two men trying to kill each other." Three of these paintings, representing different periods and styles, are displayed together at the beginning of the exhibition.

Because professional boxing was against the law at the time, the contests took place in back alley "clubs" where fighters and spectators were dues-paying "members." Bellows first captured the dark brutality of one of those clubs in 1907 with "Club Night," which eventually won the approval of the National Academy's Winter Exhibition jury. In 1909 he completed "Stag at Sharkey's," recognized as his most successful sporting scene. Two sinewy and sweaty fighters lunge at each other, forming an explosive triangle of flesh, as bloodthirsty spectators press close to the struggle.

Bellows's final fight painting, "Dempsey & Firpo," was inspired by one of the most famous prizefights in the history of boxing. But most art critics agree that there is little inspiring in this late work, which demonstrates the artist's increasingly sophisticated palette and composition. Completed at a time when Bellows was beginning to feel—and ignore—the

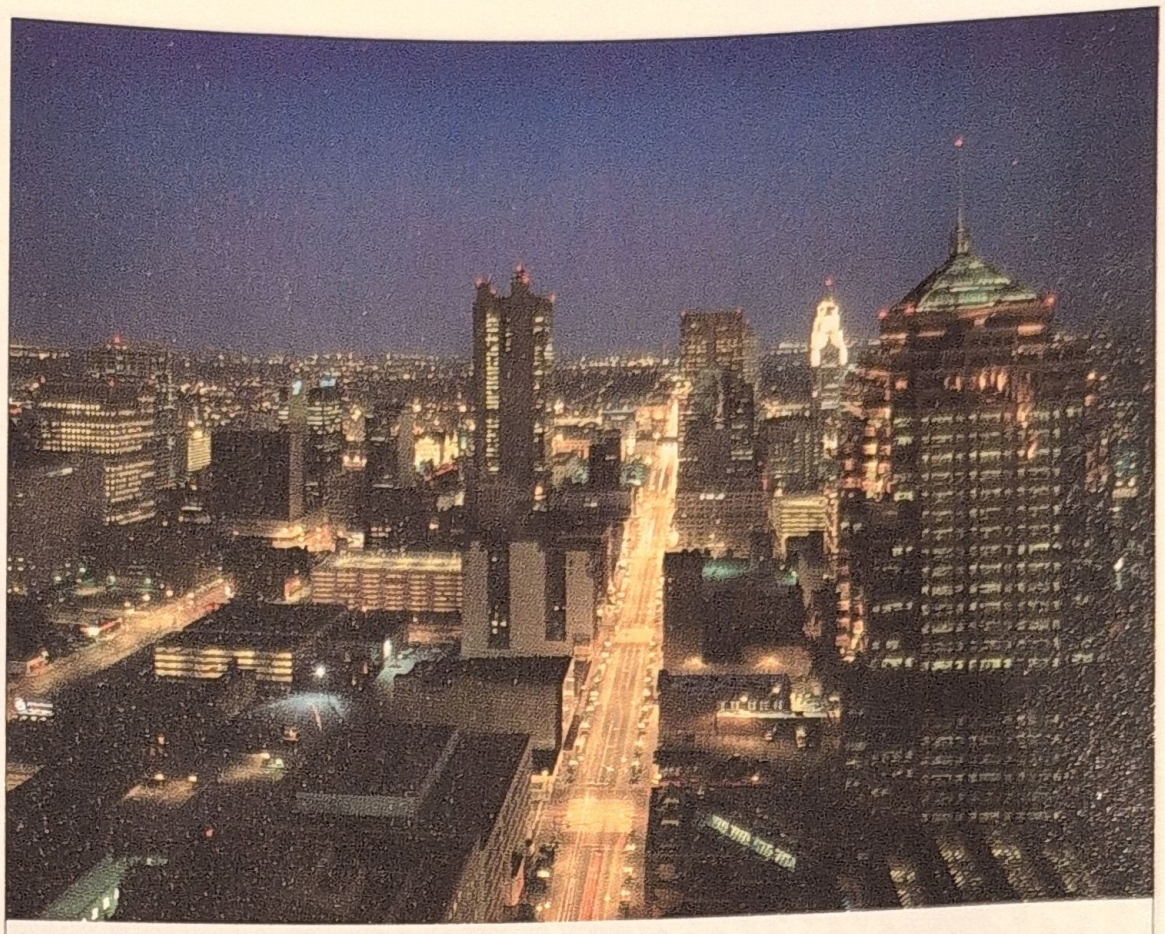
"With the insatiable thirst of an impressionable Midwesterner, Bellows drank in all of New York—the real New York of the masses."

symptoms of the illness that would lead to his death, the painting lacks the human drama and animal-like power of his earlier studies. The fighters are wooden mannequins frozen in a languishing limbo.

For all his fascination with the slums and city squalor, Bellows was hardly one to ignore or disdain beauty. A great admirer of master Winslow Homer, who died shortly after Bellows arrived in New York, he was drawn to Homer's haunts along the powerful northeast coast and to the American tradition of landscape painting. Also following the lead of his teacher Robert Henri and fellow classmate Rockwell Kent, he took up the challenge of painting the sea.

Shortly after honeymooning in Montauk, Long Island, with his new wife, Emma, Bellows created "Shore House," an eloquently simple painting of a house standing stubbornly against the crashing waves and rocky coastline. The next year he continued this work, this time in Monhegan, Maine. During one month's time, he created a dozen large oils, each more dramatically colored with more swirling, palpable brushwork.

Bellows returned to the sea as a subject many times throughout his career, but his landscapes were not limited to rocky



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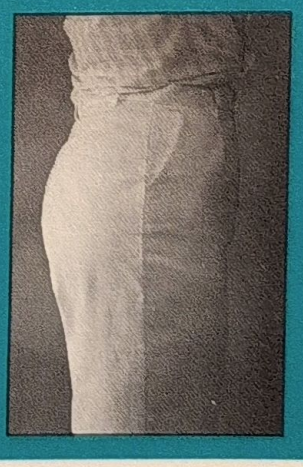

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coasts. Within the city limits, he became particularly adept at painting urban winterscapes. "Blue Snow, the Battery," painted in 1910, shows the city shrouded in knee-deep snow, hushed into an icy stillness of blue shadows and white drifts. "Easter Snow" of 1915 demonstrates Bellows's experimentation with the expressive potential of color. Much more chromatic than his earlier snow scene, "Easter" glows with intense, out-of-the-tube purples and yellow ochres.

For all his earthy verve and spontaneity, Bellows was nonetheless careful planner and draftsman, perhaps traits inherited from his architect father. Throughout his career, he studied and adapted many formal color and composition theories, including those of Hardy Maratta and Denman Ross. And although he often painted from life, he did so after numerous sketches and studies, witnessed by his lifelong mentor, friend and former Ohio State English professor Joseph Russell Taylor.

"The work began with his models, the two old ladies and the little girl between them, posed while he made a very careful and detailed pencil drawing of them," Taylor wrote soon after Bellows's death. "Then he attacked the big, blank canvas

"The town of his birth seemed to hold no visual appeal for its most famous native son."

with a T-square and a triangle, with an intense architectural planning that fixed mathematically the points of focus and their relation to each other; upon this plot of lines, and of course to this greater scale, he transferred his pencilled pose, the faces and the hands falling accurately upon the right line-crossings of his scheme. All this before a touch of the brush."

This complex portrait, "Elinor, Jean, and Anna," represents the convergence of three Bellows generations—his aunt Fanny, his daughter and his mother. It became one of the artist's signature works, winning the Beck Medal at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts in 1921 and first prize at the Carnegie International the next year.

Throughout his career, Bellows painted some 140 portraits, with subjects from all classes of people: street children like the grinning "Frankie the Organ Boy," high-society women like "Mrs. Albert M. Miller," and even university presidents like Ohio State's William Oxley Thompson. But perhaps his most successful—and most intimate—character studies were

COURTESY COLUMBUS MUSEUM OF ART

Anne in White": A portrait of the artist's daughter.

is many portrayals of his own family.

One of Bellows's earliest portraits was xecuted during a Christmas visit to Co-umbus in 1906, his first since leaving for iew York two years earlier. Despite the act that he saw his father's Victorian sen-ibility as out of step with his own think-ng and career choice, the artist created a sympathetic and sensitive portrait of George Sr. With lively but tight brush-strokes, he characterized him as a frail but wise and dignified man.

Because Bellows Jr. was a doting and loving father, his favorite portrait subjects were his young daughters: Anne, the old-est and more reserved, and Jean, three and a half years younger and a chip off the old block with her "vitality and temper." Over the years, the artist made a permanent record of the girls' growth from inno-cence to dawning maturity, often paying them a modeling fee for the privilege. "Anne in White," for example, shows a very feminine and self-assured 9-year-old Anne on the verge of adolescence. "Lady Jean," one of Bellows's most pleasing lat-er works, presents the younger daughter in a formal, turn-of-the-century costume.

Indeed the only subject matter glaring-ly absent from Bellows's remarkably di-verse oeuvre is images of his home town. Over the years the artist did make regular visits back to Columbus and maintained contacts with many friends and members of the local art community. He even orga-nized the first-ever exhibit outside the East Coast of an influential group of art-ists known as The Eight at what was then the Columbus Gallery of Fine Arts. But the town of his birth seemed to hold no visual appeal for its most famous native son.

"I think he had a love-hate relationship with Columbus," suggests Nannette Mac-iejunes, curator of American art at the Co-lumbus Museum of Art. "I think the very fact that he did very few images related to Columbus demonstrates that."

"On the one hand, I think he loved his family and the life that he'd had, but on the other hand, it represented everything he wanted to get away from," she ex-plains. "He never had the intention of liv-ing here, never had any intention of com-ing back."

According to the exhibition's catalog, Bellows was, among other things, frus-trated by unsuccessful attempts to make Columbus and Ohio State patrons of the arts. In April 1909, the same month he be-came the youngest member ever elected to the National Academy of Design, he came home to paint a portrait of former Ohio State president James Canfield, commissioned by the university. In hopes that the university would then embark up-on a series of such portraits and even sponsor a campus art gallery, he later completed a full-length standing portrait of the imposing William Oxley Thomp-son. To his dismay, Ohio State would not buy the painting, although it went on to win the portrait prize at the Academy in 1914.

Ohio State did commission two other portraits by their most esteemed alumnus, one of Dr. T.C. Mendenhall and the other of Walter Quincy Scott. The Scott portrait is included in the exhibition.

Adding insult to injury, Bellows also had a difficult time extracting payment for his various Columbus commissions. One of his society patrons was displeased with her likeness and never paid for it, while another paid only half the agreed upon price.

So perhaps it is not too surprising that Bellows executed only a few Columbus-inspired lithographs and drawings. Repre-sented in the *George Bellows's Columbus* collection, they include "Sunday 1897," a rare autobiographical scene depicting a young Bellows on a weekly Sunday car-riage ride with his family. "Sixteen East Gay Street" is a nostalgic 1923 portrayal of a quiet neighborhood that had changed little since the artist's boyhood. Demon-strating his skill as a social observer and critic, Bellows also created a lithograph of a dance at the State Mental Hospital and of the brutish hazing rituals of his Beta Theta Pi fraternity at Ohio State. A suite of five drawings created while he was a student at the university and several his-toric photographs of Bellows and his fam-ily round off the Columbus exhibit.

In the years since Bellows's death, Co-lumbus has enshrined this Renaissance man in its hall of fame. His name is per-manently engraved on the frieze of the Columbus Museum of Art, and now with the blessing of art experts as far away as Texas and California, Bellows is wel-comed home again. ■

Jean P. Kelly is a free-lance writer in Columbus.

Exhibit info

The Paintings of George Bellows continues through Jan. 3 at the Co-lumbus Museum of Art, 480 E. Broad St. Hours: 11 am to 4 pm Tuesday through Friday, 10 am to 5 pm Saturday and 11 am to 5 pm Sun-day. Several special programs and lectures also are available including "Columbus Goes to New York," Sunday, Dec. 6, featuring the vibrant New York life that inspired much of Bellows's work. On tap will be "street" performers and food ven-dors, a fashion show, a Broadway re-vue and hands-on activities for chil-dren. For more information, call 221-6801.

BY LAURA PIENKNY ZAKIN

Holiday candies

We lie. We cheat. We can't resist those sugarplum fairies.

More candy is sold in December than in any other month in the year. Make that *chocolate* candy, by far the most popular in area shops: melt-in-the-mouth truffles, fruits dipped in chocolate, chocolate fudge, chocolate-covered marshmallows, creams and nuts.

Carob? Sugarless? Low-calorie? Low-fat? Most candy sellers think that so-called dietetic candy is an oxymoron. Unless you're diabetic, they say, if you're going to indulge, make it the real thing.

Mention dieting to Joe Zanetos, an owner of Anthony-Thomas Candy Shoppes, and he turns it around: "Because of diets, people are leaving a place for confections."

"Candy consumption," Zanetos explains patiently, "has gone up dramatically in the United States." Now averaging 22 pounds a year per person, it's up from 17 to 18 pounds just a few years ago. The goal of American candy manufacturers is to bring it to 25 pounds by 1995.

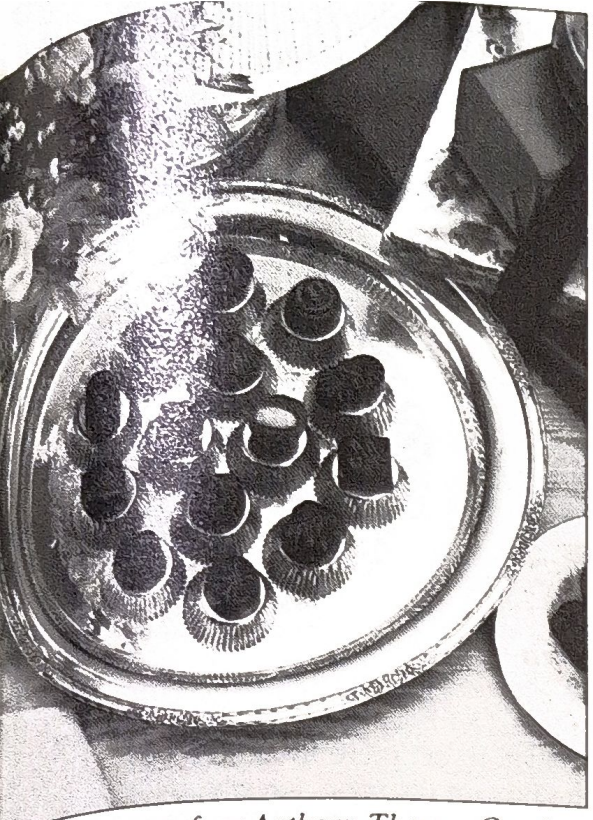
In Europe candy consumption currently averages 27 to 28 pounds a year per person; Zanetos thinks that's because Europeans have learned to incorporate chocolate into their diets rather than treat it as a temptation to be resisted.

In December, says Linda Ossing, manager of Fannie May Candies in City Center, "A lot of people give candy as gifts. You're not just singling out one person. It's a gift everyone can share."

And shopping for candy is fun, once you realize that most stores offer tastes. Act hesitant, waver, point tentatively to one of the chocolates displayed in the case in neat pyramids, and most store clerks will offer a sample. "Every time you go into one of our stores, it's our policy to give a sample," Ossing says.

Godiva Chocolatier Inc. in City Center

City Center's Godiva Chocolatier Inc.



COURTESY ANTHONY-THOMAS

Sweet treats from Anthony-Thomas Candy Shoppes.

has "a faithful clientele," says manager Rebecca Dowley. Those on the mailing list are notified when there will be monthly samplings of new products. Regulars include customers who stop in after lunch each day to treat themselves to just one piece of candy.

For those seeking gifts, "We can put together anything they want," Dowley says. "It's like a playland here. It's just a matter of how much fun you want to have."

Many shops carry specialty items for the holiday season, and all have boxes, tins, gift wraps and paper with winter and Christmas scenes. Prices remain the same year-round, ranging from about $7.95 a pound at Anthony-Thomas to $25 a pound for Godiva chocolates.

Although chocolate is the most popular candy, some stores do stock gourmet jelly beans, selected hard candies, maple sugar candy and marzipan. What follows is a partial listing of some local shops and their specialties for December.

Anthony-Thomas Candy Shoppes
There are 15 shops in Central Ohio, including one in Chillicothe. They carry boxed chocolates, and there are cases filled with individual candies for those who wish to do their own selecting. "The only thing special for Christmas," says Joe Zanetos, "is a lot of special packaging."

Fannie May Candy Shops
Columbus City Center
Fannie May, founded in 1915, has recently bought Fanny Farmer, which was founded in 1918. Combined they have about 450 shops nationwide. Fannie May chocolates are available from the case or already boxed.

What's new? "We have a wonderful item, an eggnog cream. It is a buttercream that has eggnog flavor, a little nutmeg on top," says manager Linda Ossing. Another new candy line is their Sweet Persuasion Truffles, large pieces of candy that sell for $18 a pound (you get about 18 pieces). These come in eight flavors: Piña Colada, Brandy Orange Royale, Macadamia, Amaretto, French Vanilla, White Russian, Mocha and Crème de Menthe. Sold by the piece they cost $1.10.

Fannie May also carries some hard candy and a line of no-sugar-added candy.

Fanny Farmer Candy
Columbus City Center
Because the shop's ownership has changed, salespersons here say they can only surmise that most of last year's favorites will return. These include chocolate balls in red, green and gold foil; tins of white butter mints with red and green nonpareils; and chocolate in the shape of Santas and snowmen on lollipop sticks.

Godiva Chocolatier Inc.
Columbus City Center
Worthington Square Mall
Godiva has its own shops in the Columbus City Center and in the Worthington Square Mall. It also is sold in other stores including Marshall Field's and Lazarus. There are 103 stores nationwide.

Started more than 80 years ago in Brussels, Godiva now has factories in the United States, but many items still are imported. "We have tons and tons of Christmas items," Rebecca Dowley, manager of the City Center store, says, "including crystal giftware filled with Godiva." Dowley says Godiva uses no artificial flavors or preservatives, and does not carry carob or any sugarless candy.

"We dip our own fruit," Dowley says, and this month the glass case features chocolate covered candied pineapple and candied orange rind, both made fresh in the shop. Godiva will soon carry a line of tortes made only with chocolate, eggs, sugar and butter.

Bexley Candy Shoppe
541 S. Drexel Ave., Bexley
"You're talking Christmas and Hanuka," says Chris Birhanzl at the shop, as he begins to tick off December specialties. There will be cream peanut clusters, old-fashioned chocolate drops (shaped like teardrops). There are snowballs—whole roasted hazelnuts covered with creamy fondant, then rolled in sugar crystals.

Reception sticks, thin hard candies dipped in chocolate, are popular in December, and so are turtles, shaped chocolate with caramel and nuts. "We carry maple sugar candy in the winter," Birhanzl says. Most come in maple leaf shapes. Bexley Candy also carries marzipan, an almond paste with flavorings, which is popular in Europe.

The shop carries Krums, Koppers and Paskesz kosher candy and nuts for Hanuka and year-round.

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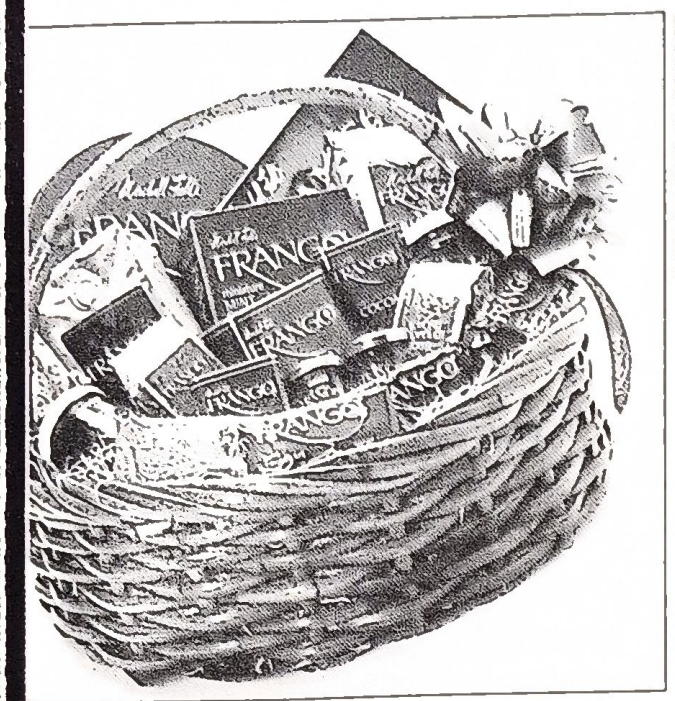

COURTESY MARSHALL FIELD'S

A basket of Frangos from Marshall Field's.

Taryn's Chocolatier of Bexley
2505 E. Main St., Bexley
Homemade truffles, dipped fruit and chocolate-covered marzipan are among special December treats at this Bexley shop. Other new items are chocolate lace, a delicate thin chocolate, and ribbon candy, which looks like waves. Buckeyes are available all winter.

Owner Taryn Knoderer says that many of their Christmas chocolates are in the shape of bells, and that "One of our gourmet boxes has peanut-filled Santas."

For Hanuka they carry Krums kosher candy, including Krums' line of sugar-free and lo-cal hard candy.

The shop also carries some Lindt candy, made in Switzerland.

Chocolate Shop
French Market
Cranberry nut fudge and pumpkin fudge are specialties in December. Owner Dana Ghosh says most of the fudge, dipped fruit, buckeyes and caramel apples are made on the premises.

The shop also carries boxed candy including Lindt chocolates, Guylian from Belgium and Perugina from Italy. There's a complete line of Jelly Belly jelly beans —44 flavors. December features are cranberry jelly beans and candy cane jelly beans.

Jacobson's
Columbus City Center
In their Sweets and Treats section, this specialty store carries DeBrand chocolates for $22 a pound, Harbor Sweets from Salem, Massachusetts, and Lindt, Guylian and Perugina boxed candy.

Sugarbush Gourmet Gift Baskets
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Worthington Square
Specializing in gourmet gift baskets, Sugarbush carries only one brand of chocolates in open cases. Their Joseph Schmidt truffles are made in San Francisco; they're decorated with individualized designs with shapes including stars and bells. Each piece is a blend of light and dark chocolate with nuts, creams and liqueurs, and costs $2.

Marshall Field's
Columbus City Center
Frangos, the store's trademark mint chocolates, come packaged in holiday tins month. Newly arrived are assortments Godiva chocolates, tins from San Francisco's Ghirardelli Chocolate Company Kim's dark and milk chocolate mints Belgium and packaged for the holidays. The store also carries Perugina chocolates from Italy.

Not only can the gift shopper occasionally sample before purchase, there's a chance to eat more if the recipient opens the box on the spot—no wonder candy is such a popular gift. Time enough next month to repent December's overindulgence. By the way, for those who can resist immediately finishing off an open box, here's a tip for longer-term storage: Chocolate keeps well for four to 12 months if stored in a cool place (ideally 65 to 70 degrees), but don't refrigerate.

Laura Pienkny Zakin is a contributing writer for Columbus Monthly.

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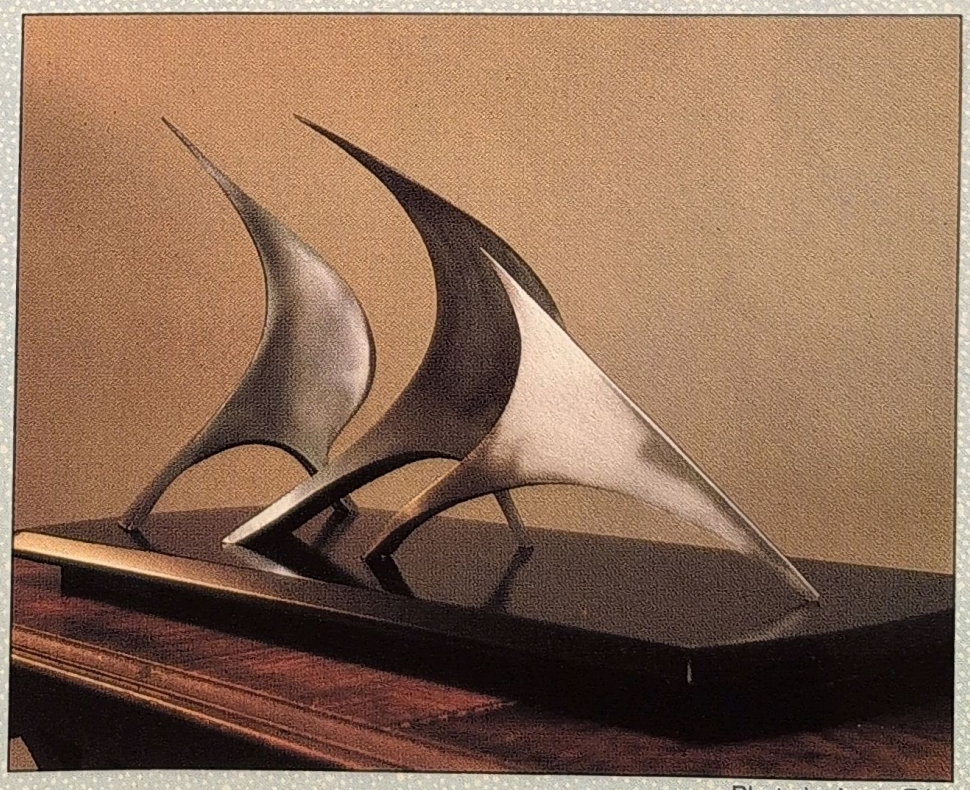

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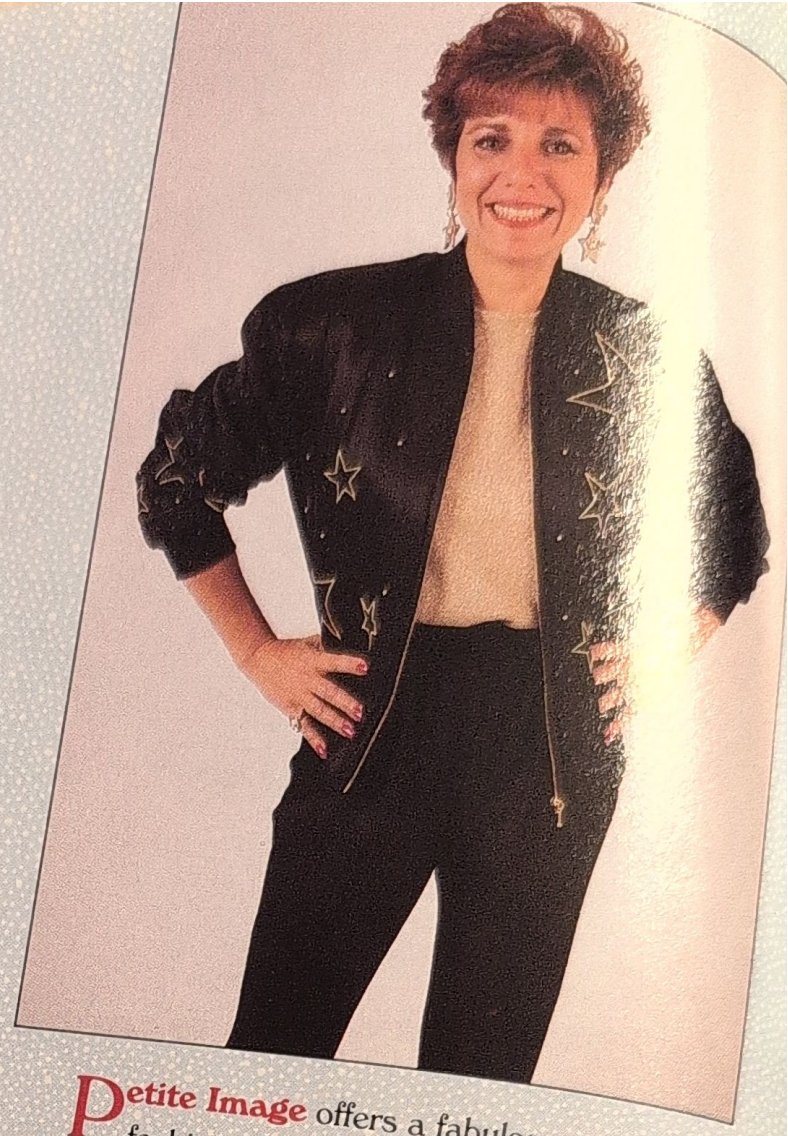
HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE



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BY LAURA PIENKNY ZAKIN

The clubs: Reading as a group activity

Some 200 book clubs exist here, and their members chat about, dissect and debate their carefully selected readings.

Take the word of local bookstore owners and librarians: Folks in Central Ohio read books—lots of them. But for many inveterate readers, just reading a book isn't enough; for them, the fun part is sharing their reactions with others. Until they analyze and discuss what they've read, they're not satisfied.

That's why about 200 book clubs flourish here, ranging from the formally structured, almost 100-year-old New Century Club in Westerville to the two or three women who meet regularly over muffins and coffee at Nickleby's Bookstore Café to discuss a book they've just finished, and later to browse to pick another.

"Getting together in a book group," says Carla Overdahl of Borders Book Shop, "is a nice starting point for good conversation; it's social, but it's not small talk. People are willing to be frank in an environment where you don't have to be polite or afraid to offend someone. You're discussing ideas, not attacking beliefs."

Was E.M. Forster's conclusion in *Howards End* realistic or a sop to readers who like happy endings? Why is it that Amy Tan's Chinese women characters have such relevance to the lives of all women? There are no right answers—just opportunities to express and clarify one's own thinking.

When the New Century Club was organized in Westerville in 1900 it was structured after the literary societies of the period and limited to 30 women. Ninety-

JOHN HULKENBERG

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two years later the club still exists, although now the group is smaller and there is no longer a waiting list for those who wish to join. Until recent years women attended meetings in white gloves and hats, and, says member Marilyn Gale, "We addressed each other as 'Mrs.' and the husband's last name." First names are now acceptable and dress is more relaxed, too, says Gale, "although we don't go in blue jeans."

When they meet on the second and fourth Monday evenings of the month, they come together to listen to and discuss scholarly papers on some aspect of the year's chosen subject. This year it's historical fiction. Previous topics included United States immigrants, the Soviet Union and famous American women. "Each member is assigned a book," Gale says. "Then two people per meeting present a 30-minute paper on their topic." Many years ago these papers were critiqued, but that practice has been dropped.

"We start on time," Gale says, "and you don't miss a meeting unless you're out of town."

Equally traditional but far more secretive is a daytime group founded in 1897, which limits itself to 35 women and meets twice a month at a church in Clintonville. Admission is by invitation, after attendance as a guest a few times. The group restricts its subjects to nonfiction, and the format, like that of the New Century Club, is members' reviews of books picked by the board. Unable to obtain permission from her board to continue an interview, the president declined to give further details.

Since the mid '60s when a priest at the Newman Center at the Ohio State University and a Presbyterian campus pastor invited others to participate in a group that would read theological and historical texts, the Faculty Theology Seminar continues to meet from September through June. "Nobody can kill it; it just keeps going," says the Rev. Edson T. (Bill) Lewis, pastor of the Christian Reformed Church at OSU, a participant since 1976 and now a coordinator who suggests books. Decisions are made by consensus.

Each Wednesday about 15 to 20 men and women, Catholics, Protestants, Jews, meet for lunch in the Faculty Club. "We tried to secure Muslim participation," Lewis says, but now it's "mostly a Jewish-Christian dialogue."

Meeting weekly, they divide a book into chapters or sections and try to read one book each quarter. "One of the group's members agrees beforehand to lead the discussion," Lewis says. With a total of six clergy, the rest of the participants are faculty members from varied disciplines (and some spouses), "but," Lewis says slyly, "a majority are in engineering—maybe they need it more."

When it began this year's round of meetings in September, the group started discussion of *Essential Papers on Jewish-Christian Relations in the United States: Imagery and Reality*, edited by Naomi W. Cohen.

Quite different but also started under religious guidance is a group called the Azariennes. The guiding force behind this group was the late Monsignor Leonard Fick of the Pontifical College Josephinum, who had taught at St. Mary's in the Springs (now Ohio Dominican College). Under his tutelage many literary clubs were started in the late '60s and early '70s.

"As the church was changing," says longtime Azariennes member Betsy Van Heyde, "we read books related to that topic, like *The Thorn Birds* by Colleen McCullough and books by Father Andrew Greeley." In recent years they also have read many general interest novels. When they met in September at the Pacific Club restaurant, they discussed Morris West's *The Tower of Babel*.

"It has become an informal network of friends who rotate homes, 'do breakfast,' and discuss books from 9 to 11 am. 'People come faithfully,' says Muller."

When Barbara Muller left the East Coast and settled in Upper Arlington in the mid '70s, she particularly missed her book club, and she decided to recruit some neighbors to start a local group.

It has become an informal network of friends who rotate homes, "do breakfast," and discuss books from 9 to 11 am. "People come faithfully," says Muller. The person who picks the book is the one who thinks of discussion questions. Availability of copies of a book is a criterion, and, like many other similar groups, they mostly read fiction available in paperback. "We try not to be best-sellerish," Muller says, "but we pick books that have some literary merit."

Jeff and Liz Cabot, Jennie Wilson, Kay Wollenslegel and Jim Breiner belong to a co-ed evening group, a mixture of about 25 married and single people. With a strong nucleus of Clintonville residents, this is a group that gets together about every six weeks and discusses fiction. They have no name, nor any official theme. "We read all kinds of stuff," says Jeff Cabot. In September he was "struggling a little bit" with Terry McMillan's *Disappearing Acts*. Over the years, says Kay

Wollenslegel. "We've read everything from *Lord Jim* and Faulkner to Thurber, Steinbeck, Fitzgerald."

"The people are very diverse," says Wollenslegel. "They bring so many different opinions, different concepts and ideas." Jennie Wilson, who teaches a Severe Behavior Handicap class at Upham Hall, says the group includes a nurse, public administrators, a journalist, computer specialists, state employees, homemakers and lawyers.

"Most discussions at most gatherings have to do with pretty trivial stuff," says Jim Breiner, editor of *Business First*, a committed book group member. "This is a chance to talk about some of the big issues in people's lives. It's a shared quest for understanding some of the more difficult, complex questions people deal with in life."

At each meeting's end the group holds "jump book," and all the participants who have brought along their choices hold forth on what should be chosen for the next meeting.

Another group had its beginnings 23 years ago when a group of Columbus women attended a Y course, says Dorothy Smith. It was structured like a class, and they paid $14 and were led by a former English teacher.

"After that was over," says longtime member Smith, "We said, why pay? We can meet in each other's homes." The Readers have been meeting for a light lunch at 12:30, usually every two weeks, since then. Discussion starts promptly at 1 pm and ends at 3 pm. Books for the year are chosen at a special meeting at which members make their pitches for favored books. Discussions are led by those who picked the books.

Smith says that reading a book you know you will be discussing makes it more focused. "There's such a great variety," she says. "We get answers, insight; conflict is what it's all about." In 1969, its first year, this group read William Styron's *The Confessions of Nat Turner*, Günter Grass's *The Tin Drum* and 16 other books. In 1991-'92, selections included John Updike's *Rabbit at Rest*, Alvin Toffler's *Powershift* and 12 other books.

Like other daytime groups, the Readers find it difficult to attract new members, since so many women work outside the home. Fewer women come to meetings now, and occasionally someone comes who has not read the book.

Smith and her husband will retire soon to Yachats, Oregon, and she says she will miss Columbus's excellent library facilities—but there will be a couples book discussion group waiting for them. "We're spread up and down the coast for about 50 miles," she says of the group.

Another Columbus group, held together by Dorothy Shanfeld, is called "The Ladies of the Book Club." Eight members meet monthly for dinner, sometimes at a restaurant, sometimes at a home. They

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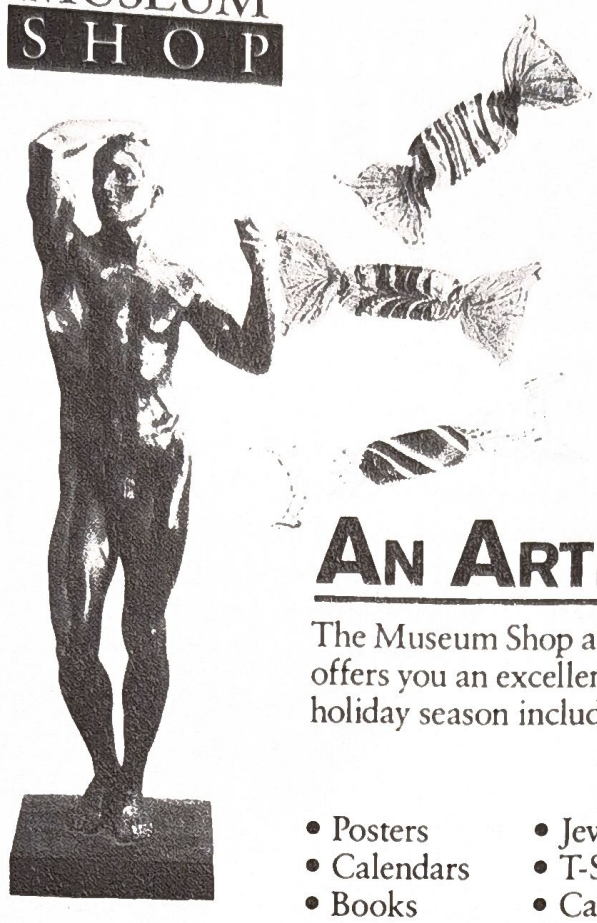

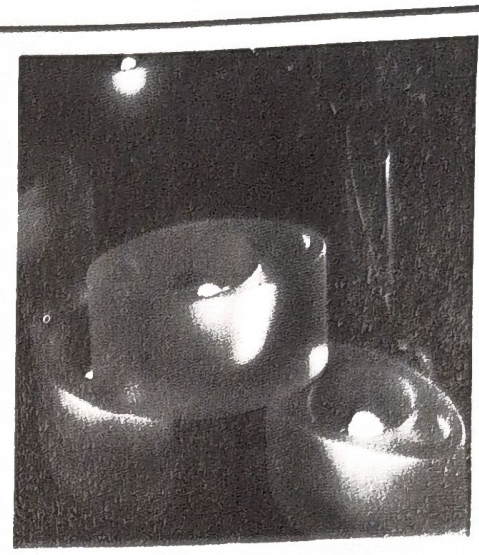

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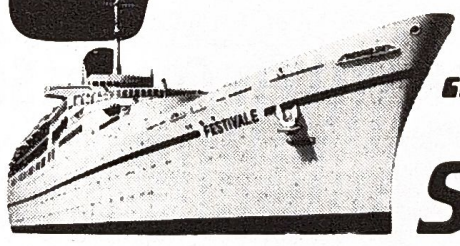

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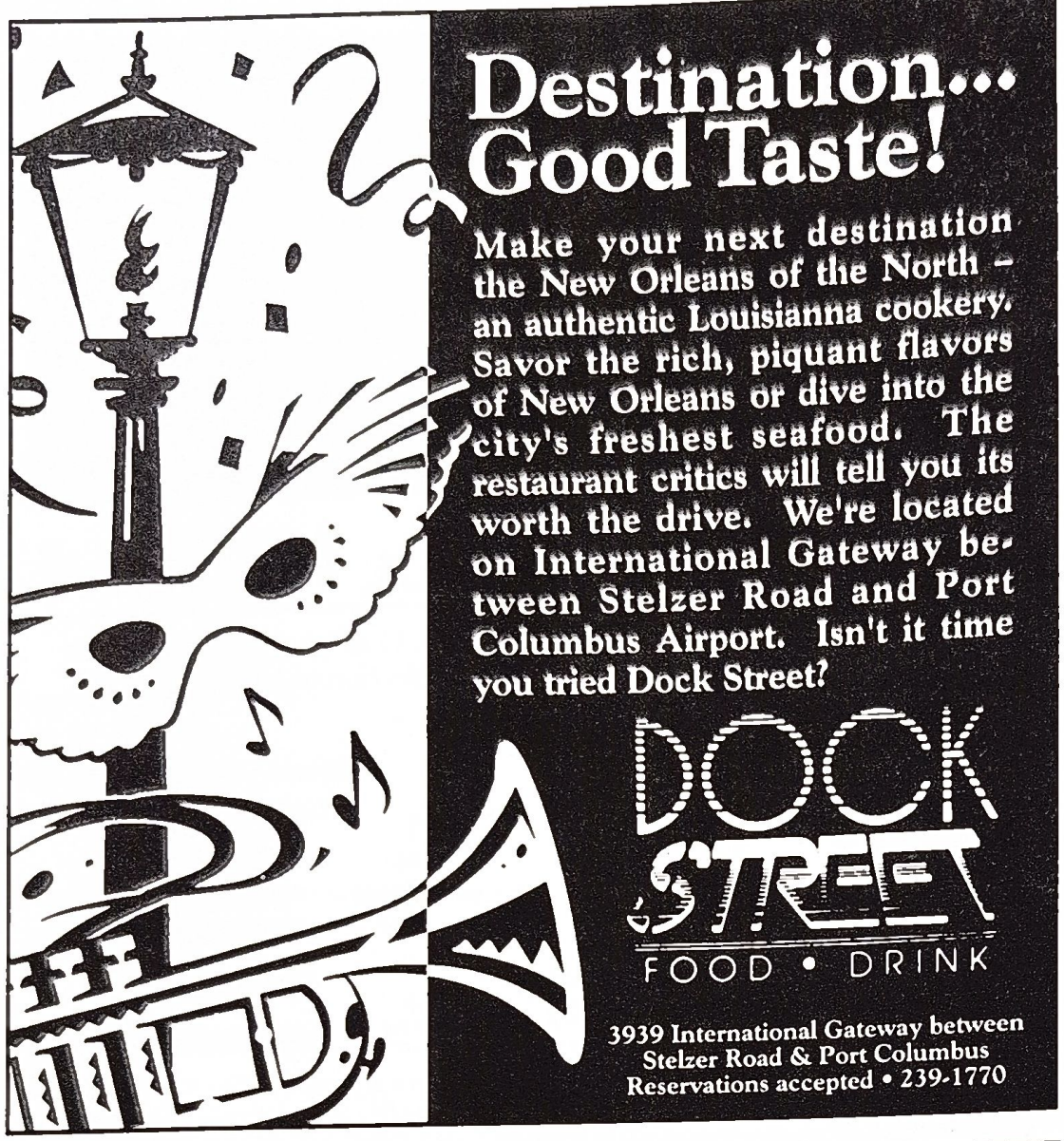

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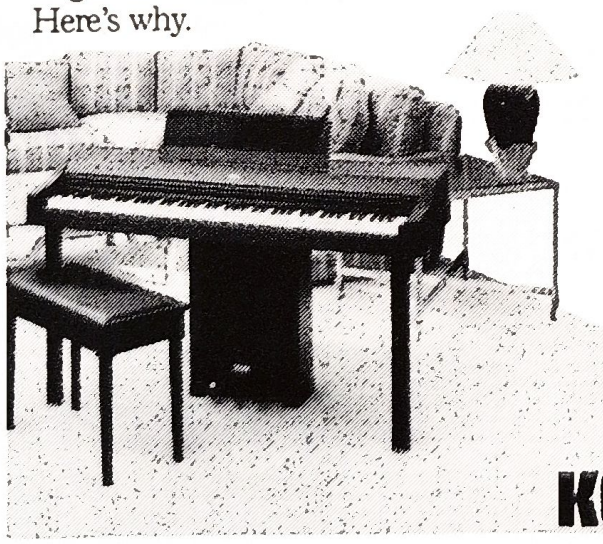

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read classical literature interspersed with modern and contemporary fiction. They've just finished Anne Rivers Siddons's book *Colony*.

With no official leader, "Someone just spontaneously begins," Shanfeld says. "We're all just regular people. We decide to discipline ourselves to read a book a month, kind of like having to take piano lessons—you have to practice."

Small groups, big groups. Beth Clark, manager at Little Professor's Lane Avenue store, thinks there are "at least 20" in her part of town. Most meet in homes, "but it's a growing thing to have book groups meet in the store," she says. "It's another way of becoming part of your community."

"Probably more people are reading," Clark says. "Our sales have grown."

Borders Book Shop sponsors two monthly in-store groups, both led by a staff person: Pick of the Paperbacks and the Classics Discussion Group.

At Nickleby's Bookstore Café, co-owner Marie Rusch says she is aware of about 30 groups that meet at her store or in people's homes. The store sponsors a Science Fiction Club that meets regularly on the third Tuesday of every month at 7:30.

As for the informal ones, "I happen on them regularly," Rusch says. "I'm walking around doing my hostess thing, and they say they're meeting and having coffee." And it's easy enough, she points out, for them to look for their next book there.

Public libraries become aware of book club activities when members deplete all copies of a chosen book, and then ask for books to be transferred from another branch. And, to some extent, all libraries have gotten into sponsorship or support of book groups on site. "More than half our branches [there are 20] have at least one group running," says Susan Studebaker, director of extension services for the Columbus Metropolitan Library.

In Westerville, says Linda Caskie of the library's community service department, about 10 to 15 adults meet every Wednesday evening. "Many of the books they read, like historical fiction, challenges, expands your mind," Caskie says. "We make a statement on what our lives are through fiction."

Those interested in joining a book discussion group can start by contacting their nearest library or bookstore or inquiring among friends to see who belongs to one. Many book groups currently in existence started with two or three avid readers who decided to meet and spread the word.

As fall's brisk days slowly yield to winter's gloom, those two to three thousand Central Ohioans who belong to book groups will sink contentedly into comfortable chairs, pick up their paperbacks and start serious reading again. ■

Laura Pienkny Zakin is a contributing writer for Columbus Monthly.

Tapatio

Presenting another new set of tastes, this Short North restaurant serves a bouquet of spicy foods from the Gulf of Mexico.

The best thing about Tapatio, the new Caribbean-Southwestern-Mexican restaurant, is its eclectic, unusual menu. The worst thing about Tapatio is that the dishes on the menu are sometimes very good, and sometimes, despite enticing descriptions, just plain dull. Open less than three months at this writing, Tapatio figures to sort out fairly soon which are the good ones and which are the dull ones. Until then, it's still worth taking a risk, especially for the likes of the flank steak "matahambre," slices of rolled roasted flank steak flavored with cilantro, chilies and pumpkin seeds, or the sautéed salmon with ancho chili saffron cream over angel hair pasta. Both are excellent dishes of complex, spicy flavors.

Located mercifully just out of view of the new convention center, Tapatio sits on Park Street directly west of the North Market. Owners Hartley Coursen and Bruce Hildreth have given us a bit of the Southwest, with a big open dining room painted and carpeted in bright desert colors. Tapatio has a lively atmosphere with a large open kitchen, a bar area and, just outside the front door, a crushed limestone patio for alfresco dining.

It's a bit unfair to review service in a newly opened restaurant; a few weeks usually are needed to round out the rough edges. Luckily, table service at Tapatio has been consistently pleasant and efficient, undoubtedly because the owners have taken care to hire a number of experienced waiters. Among them is Michael Harrison, formerly manager of the Bermuda Onion Deli, who knows as much about food as many chefs. The wait staff seem generally knowledgeable about the food and eager to help.

Unfortunately, the same cannot be said for two of the three women who were working the front of the house and the two bartenders. My hosts were less than pleasant, even rude, on four of six visits, and on more than one occasion I had noticeable waits at the bar (on relatively slow nights) before I was served. A little attitude adjustment is in order.

Hildreth is the chef-in-charge. His menu is divided into first courses, soups and salads, "standards," and main courses, at both lunch and dinner. Coursen is the restaurant's manager and the baker of its good bread.

In the soup and salad category, the Caesar is decent, although the listed dry-

At Tapatio.

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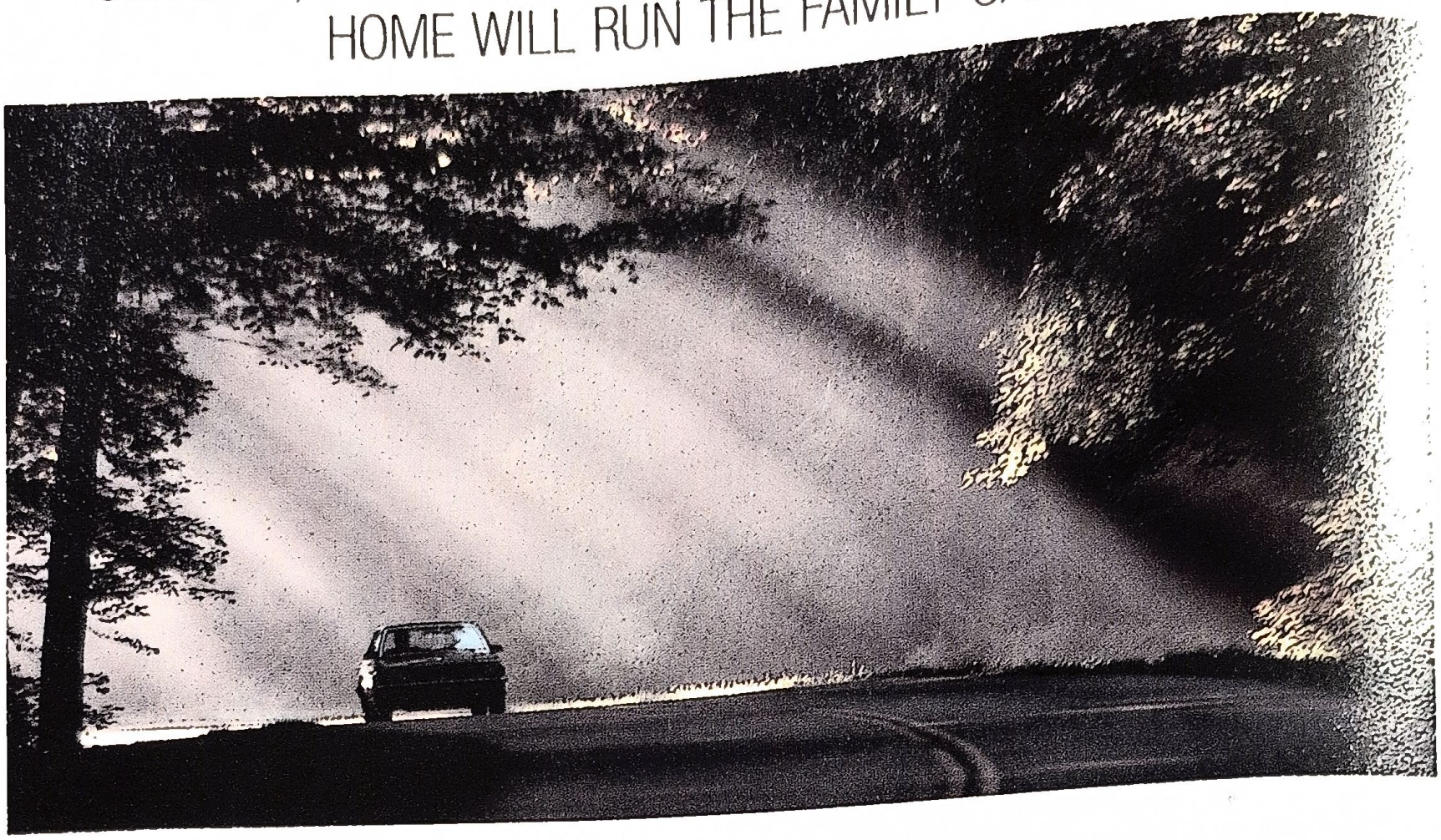

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COLUMBIA GAS

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jack cheese is no improvement over Parmesan. "Tapatio salad" is better, a mix of lettuce, oranges and sunflower seeds with a citrus dressing. The black bean soup "Cuban-style" is uninteresting.

You might start with one of the first courses instead, such as the salad of marinated artichoke and palm hearts with shiitake mushrooms, or the reliable guacamole, or salt cod fritters, which are tasty, if a bit dry. Smoked fish salad with hot chili dressing is a combination that does not work. Knowledgeable diners also know to avoid dishes made with "rock" (substitute "flavorless") shrimp.

Among the "standards," shrimp with a Jamaican jerk marinade is tangy, and the marinade doesn't conceal the fresh, crisp shrimp. The quesadilla with goat cheese and fresh corn salsa also is worth a try. One of the best values on the menu is the stacked tortillas with chicken and green chilies for $8. However, you can safely skip the grilled chicken breast with a "south central Mexico style" red mole sauce—apparently in south central Mexico, mole sauce is acid sharp and devoid of richness.

Among the main courses, the flank steak and salmon are notable, as well as a flavorful wild mushroom enchilada. These are complex dishes with many flavors that work well together. How then to explain the insipid rainbow trout with chipotle (smoked jalapeño pepper) cider sauce, or a roasted pork loin with bitter orange juice, which tasted like a pork chop boiled in Minute Maid?

I've had the best luck with daily specials. One night, a salad of thickly sliced cured salmon served with a sweet onion chipotle chutney was a winner, and on another, perfectly cooked lamb chops showed that the kitchen knows the meaning of medium rare.

Accompaniments to the main courses have been rather plain, perhaps by design. Black beans and rice have little added flavor, but are welcome when served with a highly spiced main course. Plain sautéed green beans also are good, although they've been served cold on a couple of occasions.

Desserts are not made on premises, but are worth trying. I recommend the caramel pear tart or the dense chocolate cake. Eschew the flan, which seems to be missing both egg yolks and cream.

The wine selection is small, but the list reflects an effort to keep prices fair, with bottles between $10 and $20. And several half-bottles are listed. Actually, cold beer is a good choice with much of this food.

Coursen and Hildreth are to be commended for taking risks with Tapatio's menu. In addition to not sparing the chilies, they also have thoughtfully listed a number of vegetarian dishes, and they have made an effort to offer some items low in cholesterol, fat and salt. The modest pricing, including the relatively inexpensive "standards" and several main courses offered in half portions, also is worth noting.

—John Marshall

Tapatio

Rating: ★★★

491 Park St.
(just west of the North Market)
221-1085

Atmosphere: Large, bright, open dining room with separate bar area, patio and smoking area. Noisy when full.

Recommended dishes: Flank Steak Matahambre, salmon with ancho chili cream, wild mushroom enchilada, Jamaican jerk shrimp, quesadilla with goat cheese, marinated artichoke and palm hearts salad, salt cod fritters, Tapatio salad.

Price range: Soups, salads and first courses, $1.50 to $6; standards and main courses, $5 to $20. Some half portions available.

Hours: Monday through Thursday 11 am to 3:30 pm and 5 to 10 pm, Friday and Saturday 11 am to 3 pm and 5 to 11 pm; closed Sunday.

Reservations: Accepted.

Houlihan's

An eclectic menu and a friendly setting characterize this shopping center chain restaurant.

Houlihan's is exactly what you'd anticipate a restaurant located in a shopping mall to be. It's user friendly. Lots of convenient parking. Pleasant atmosphere. Friendly servers. And a menu featuring trendy—but not *too* trendy—food.

Among the items here on a menu with type so large and bold it seems to have been printed for the visually challenged, the applewood chicken grille sandwich is a good example. A thick piece of moist, applewood-smoked chicken and a sizable tomato slice rest on a light, freshly baked herb roll, which has been slightly black-

RATING SYSTEM ★★★★★: outstanding, ★★★★: very good, ★★★: good, ★★: satisfactory, ★: mediocre, no stars: poor

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ened around the edges. But the clever part is that it is complemented by an apple-pear mayonnaise, an accompaniment that is pleasantly sweet yet not overly so.

The baked potato soup, one of the starters, is perked up with little chips of real bacon, scallions and cheddar. The potatoes still have their skins on. The flavor is rich but not overwhelming. This soup is comforting and just a little—a little—out of the ordinary.

Sometimes, however, this notion of being slightly different ("tradition with a twist," the menu proclaims) creates a curious effect. The French onion soup, for example, consistently is served here with toasted bread on the side rather than the

"The popular salads are filling enough to stand on entrees in themselves. The cashew chicken and Santa Fe cobb salads in particular are excellent choices."

bowl. But the soup is tasty nonetheless—the broth is thicker and darker than one would expect, but it boasts plenty of onions and is a bit salty, as some French onion soups tend to be.

The popular salads are filling enough to stand as entrees in themselves. The cashew chicken and Santa Fe cobb salads in particular are excellent choices when you are hungry but want something relatively healthful.

At first glance, the so-called sizzling fajitas entree is as promised. Char-grilled chicken or beef, or a combination of the two, is mixed with red onion slices and bell pepper strips. The odd thing here is this mélange is sautéed in a teriyaki sauce, something not even hinted at on the menu. Which means, if one forgets what fajitas are supposed to taste like, the result is quite pleasing.

The teriyaki also finds its way into part of the Three-Way Sampler. Barbecued back ribs, char-grilled chicken kebobs and lightly breaded Cajun shrimp come with dipping sauces—a honey mustard and the aforementioned teriyaki. The shrimp, at first bite, is sweet, but bears a spiciness that catches up with you a few seconds later. The entree is tasty, but it didn't help that during a recent visit both shrimp and chicken were served no warmer than room temperature.

For those watching their red meat intake, Houlihan's offers an abundance of chicken dishes. Grilled chicken fettuccine

is a hearty meal and is one of the better items on the menu.

The roasted red-pepper flavor in the fettuccine's cream sauce stands it in good stead, whereas the "spicy" Italian sausage found in the scaloppine di pollo doesn't live up to its billing. The sausage bits reside on good terms with fresh garlic, bell peppers and mushrooms, all nestled on a bed of vermicelli pasta enlivened by a vermouth glaze. It's not spicy, but it is satisfying.

The homemade desserts tend to walk on the quiet side, too. Caramel nut crunch pie—vanilla ice cream with crushed Snickers on a chocolate-cookie-and-pecan-crumb crust, topped with hot fudge and caramel sauce—and a cappuccino cake—three-layer chocolate cake with mocha chocolate, espresso icing, hot fudge and, yes, chocolate-chip ice cream—are thick, rich and filling enough to put you off any more desserts for the next two months.

The wine list rounds up the usual suspects from California. Warning: Though affordable by the bottle, by the glass can be a tad pricey. Four dollars and twenty-five cents for a glass of Fetzer Sundial, a Chardonnay, seems a bit much.

Houlihan's also makes a big to-do over its cappuccino and liqueur creations, touting a cappuccino Cancun—Romana sambuca, Baileys Irish Cream and Kahlua—and a cappuccino nut with Frangelico and Baileys. The garden variety cappuccino, however, is cloying, steamed as it is with sweet cream instead of milk, and the espresso is thin, more like straight coffee than the concentrated brew it's supposed to be.

Service at this chain establishment is friendly and easygoing. Like the surroundings, when you come to think of it.

—Michael Chevy Castranova and Lisa Williams

Houlihan's

Rating: ★★★

6240 Busch Blvd.
431-1852

Atmosphere: Casual and clean with memorabilia cluttering the walls.

Recommended dishes: Cajun shrimp, baked potato soup, applewood chicken grille, grilled chicken fettuccine, scaloppine di pollo, Santa Fe cobb salad, cashew chicken salad.

Dinner price range: $5.79 to $12.99.

Hours: Monday through Thursday 11:30 am to 11 pm, Saturday 11:30 am to midnight, Sunday 10 am to 10 pm; brunch Sunday 10 am to 2 pm.

Reservations: Accepted; there's rarely more than a 10-minute wait.

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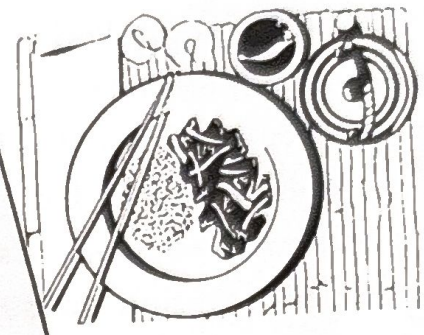

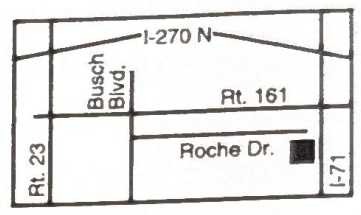

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Soup's on

Sometimes the only way to get warm is from the inside out. Hence, those hearty winter soups. Some of our favorites are the flavorful minestrone at **Trattoria Roma,** baked potato soup at **Houlihan's**, potato soup at **Schmidt's**, turtle at the **Old Mohawk**, borsch at **Matreoshka**, Charlie's Chowder at **Engine House No. 5**, butternut squash soup at **Rigsby's**, black bean at the **Dell**, hot and sour at **Golden City** or **Fortune**, tomato and zucchini at **Whole World Natural Restaurant**. If these don't get your circulation going again, try a hot bath.

A new bread rises

What is this thing called **focaccia**? Somewhere between pizza and a hockey puck, focaccia (pronounced foh-*catch*-ya) is a chewy Italian bread originally from the Liguria region around our sister city of Genoa. It's thicker than pizza and traditionally is baked sprinkled with sage and chopped onions, although you may find other variations with herbs and tomatoes. We've seen it used as a rich sandwich bread at **Rigsby's**. Without a doubt the best place to buy it is **Pane** bakery in the Short North, where several varieties come out of the oven on Saturday afternoon. So good you won't get it home whole.

A family takeover

Nolita Green likes fast-paced activities such as white-water rafting and horseback riding, so it's no wonder she enjoys managing Tennessee Pit Barbecue restaurants.

With the second location opening in September at Westerville's Glengary Shopping Center, Green found herself working 60 to 80 hours a week to get everything going the way she wanted. But the extra time has paid off, and sales at the new location have outstripped those of the first restaurant. "I couldn't ask for it to do any better," remarks Green.

Nolita Green at Tennessee Pit Barbecue.

She took over the restaurants at the request of her father, David Foster, who founded Tennessee Pit Barbecue in January, 1992, on East Livingston Avenue.

Last March, Foster decided he wanted to attend the Methodist Theological Seminary in Delaware, so he sold Green his 51 percent of the company's shares.

"It came about unexpectedly," says Green of the change. Although she had gained management experience in other areas such as hair salons and day care, she didn't expect to be running a restaurant chain.

But Green thoroughly enjoys it. "I love it and I wouldn't trade it for anything," she says. "I'm learning and growing by leaps and bounds." Since March, Foster has been training Green to take over full control of the company, although he will continue as CEO even after seminary begins in December.

Once everything settles down, Green plans to go back to a 40-hour work week so she can spend more time with her family again. However, the shorter work week may not last long. Green says she is positive she will open more Tennessee Pit Barbecue restaurants, possibly one next fall.

—Karen Heil

Whistling up a new beer

Another nod at the popularity of microbrewery beers: After a 60-day test period and "Whistle for a Redhead" marketing campaign, **Damon's** has introduced **Damon's Redhead** beer into 16 of its 34 restaurants. Made at a microbrewery in Dayton (Chicory Restaurant), this red aged lager has proved so far to be "very profitable," according to Damon's spokesperson Penny Merrick. In fact, it eased other red beers right out of the bar.

MIKE NEERMAN/FRYCUS ASSOC.

News bites

Vietnamese cuisine has put its stamp on Paris and become part of the scene even in Chicago. Columbus still awaits a first-class restaurant to showcase this spicy but delicate food. Those who want a sampling might try an attractive little place downtown on Front Street, **Saigon Palace**. Open 11 am to 5 pm, its limited menu features rice and egg noodle dishes and several stir-fries assembled with all fresh ingredients.

The **National Road Restaurant and Tavern** has reopened under the new ownership of Jerry and Rita Greer. The remodeled restaurant, an east-side gathering place for many years, will serve steaks, seafood, pasta and sandwiches.

Boston Chicken has taken the east side by storm with its rotisserie chicken and down-home vegetables cooked on the premises. Cars back up on Main Street waiting to get into the parking lot. A new outlet now is opening at Kingsdale, and more of these restaurants are planned.

East-siders are talking enthusiastically about a pretty, new Chinese restaurant at the Wyandot Center. They say if you like the food at Hunan House and Hunan Lion, you'll like it at **Lai Lai**, including the familiar fried minced chicken and General Tso's chicken. No, Lai Lai is not another effort by Peter Lee. It's the work of some of his former employees.

Unless you're Japanese, you may not have noticed that **Morton's of Chicago** has a small Japanese-language menu to supplement the one in English. Columbus's sizable Japanese community must be appreciative. As Jennifer Doherty, Morton's Columbus spokesperson, points out, "The Japanese love steaks so much."

¢heap eats

Lunching at the **Perfect Flour Baking Company** on Indianola Avenue is like going home from school to Mom. The so-called brown bag lunch includes a sandwich on thick-sliced homemade bread, bag o' chips and homemade cookie and pickle (or two cookies) for $2.50. Everything is made from scratch. This may have been the only place in town that put a slice of home-grown tomato on each sandwich last summer. Baked goods to eat or carry away.

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In the endless search for cheap lunches, try **Damon's** $3.45 plates. Chicken livers, meatloaf, roast chicken or chicken salad served with fries, slaw and a honeybran muffin. The double whammy is they are express—if they're not served in 15 minutes, you get them free.

¢ ¢ ¢ ¢ ¢

If you're in the south end of town, let the Warsmiths serve you one of their daily lunch specials at **Crimson & Clover** on Harrisburg Pike. For example, Cajun chicken or deep-fried chicken with the usual sides for $3.50. Enjoy the Woody Hayes décor while you wait.

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COLUMBUS MONTHLY'S GUIDE TO Dining Out

The restaurants included here are recommended this month by *Columbus Monthly* for dependable food quality, service and value. The opinions represent the best judgment of the editors, and recommendations will be updated on a regular basis.

Credit card notations: AE, American Express; CB, Carte Blanche; DC, Diners Club; Dis, Discover; MC, MasterCard; V, Visa. A **W** symbol indicates a restaurant spokesman has said that the restaurant is wheelchair-accessible; call to confirm.

For a complete guide to hundreds of [illegible] *Columbus Monthly's Restaurant Guide* [illegible] newsstands throughout the city.

Cost estimates are based on an average [illegible] for one, excluding tip and alcoholic beverages. The [illegible] symbols used are as follows: $—average; $$—moderate, $9-$14; $$$—fairly expensive, $15-$19; $$$$—expensive, $20 or more.

A la carte, 2333 N. High St. (northwest), 294-6783. A la carte's small menu emphasizes Slavic cuisine. The restaurant is noted for its hummus, its soups, its wonderful ways with chicken and its great pastries, especially the apple walnut cake. From the well-stocked wine shop in the back, you can have a bottle served at your table for the retail price plus a small corkage fee. Open for lunch and dinner Mon-Sat; closed Sun. Checks, AE, Dis, MC, V; $.

Baci Ristorante, 350 S. High St. (downtown), 224-1744. Creative Italian cooking takes place here in an old saloon atmosphere. The pastas are innovative and delicious, the breads are homemade, and the Italian wine list is excellent. Open for lunch Mon-Fri, dinner Mon-Sat; closed Sun. Checks, AE, MC, V; $$$.

Block's Hot Bagels, 3415 E. Broad St., 235-2551, and 6115 McNaughten Centre, 863-0470 (both east). Block's bakes the bagels sold throughout the city and has two popular sites with cafeteria-style service where you can get bagels with plain or flavored cream cheeses, tuna salad, egg salad, chicken salad and on and on. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner 7 days. W; Checks; $.

Carolyn's, 489 City Park Ave. (German Village), 221-8100. One of the most highly touted restaurants in Central Ohio, Carolyn's strength is in the kitchen where chef Carolyn Claycomb creates unusual dishes that are experiences, not experiments. Almost everything is worth ordering, and the desserts are worth the calories. Open for dinner Tue-Sat; closed Sun-Mon. MC, V; $$$$. Reservations recommended.

China Dynasty, Lane Avenue Shopping Center (northwest), 486-7126. Popular Chinese restaurant with a large menu of entrees in various regional cooking styles. The list of luncheon plates is outstanding; the portions are large. Open for lunch and dinner 7 days, brunch Sun. W; AE, DC, MC, V; $$.

Clarmont, 684 S. High St. (German Village), 443-1125. Old-style steakhouse atmosphere, with a dependable menu. The Clarmont does a great job with steaks and wonderful French onion soup. Don't overlook the fresh tuna and salmon, the chicken in a clay pot, or the chopped steak with sautéed onions. Open for breakfast and lunch Mon-Sat, dinner 7 days. W; Checks, AE, DC, MC, V; $$$.

Cooker Bar and Grille, 1540 Bethel Rd. (northwest), 459-5114; 6153 Cleveland Ave. (northeast), 899-7000, and 5225 E. Main St. (east), 759-6700. Three extremely popular suburban restaurants that serve a trendy variation of finger foods, plus regional American dishes, Tex-Mex, various chicken recipes and good [illegible] ches. The drop bis[illegible]s are a must. Open [illegible]ch and dinner 7 days, brunch Sun. AE, MC, V; $$.

Dalt's, 140 W. Wilson Bridge Rd. (northwest), 436-9611. A stand-out in the fun-food restaurant category, the place to take the whole family for sandwiches, Tex-Mex, spicy french fries, salads and ice cream sodas. Ambiance is updated diner. Open for breakfast Sat-Sun, lunch and dinner 7 days, brunch Sun. W; AE, CB, DC, Dis, MC, V; $.

Damon's, five locations. These are the premier places for barbecued ribs, barbecued chicken and wonderfully greasy loaves of onion rings. The other menu items are secondary. Open for lunch and dinner 7 days. W; AE, CB, DC, MC, V; $$.

David's on Main, 122 E. Main St. (downtown), 228-8781. Highly creative cooking in a lively downtown atmosphere. The changing menu is eclectic, with Southwest, Oriental and Italian flavors predominating. Don't expect traditional dishes, though. Open for dinner 7 days, brunch Sun. W; MC, V; $$.

Déjà Vu Café, 2800 Festival Ln. (northwest), 793-9966. A fine addition to the cuisine of the northwest quadrant, open and airy, this is an upscale café with tablecloths. The dishes are avant-garde, but tasty, not weird. Open for lunch Mon-Sat, dinner 7 days. W; Checks, Dis, MC, V; $$$.

Dock Street, 3939 International Gateway (east), 239-1770. An imaginative and affordable Port Columbus eatery with some Cajun influence. It does fine things with Ohio pork, such as the Southwest pork, and highlights Ohio wine on the wine list. Save room for dessert. Open for lunch Mon-Sat, dinner 7 days. W; AE, DC, Dis, MC, V; $$.

Engine House No. 5, 121 Thurman Ave. (German Village), 443-4877. Seafood dinners here should start with Charlie's Chowder, a hearty fish soup, and move on to the large selection of fresh fish or the clambake bucket. Don't skip the rolls. The restaurant is located in a 100-year-old restored firehouse. Open for lunch Mon-Fri, dinner 7 days. W; Checks, AE, CB, DC, Dis, MC, V; $$$. Reservations recommended.

FiftyFive on the Boulevard Seafood Restaurant, 55 Nationwide Blvd. (downtown), 228-5555, and **FiftyFive at Crosswoods**, 55 Hutchinson Ave. (northeast), 846-5555. Two stylish restaurants that are

Columbus Monthly reader favorites. The downtown Fifty-One bills itself as a seafood place; the Crosswoods location has a more varied menu. Open for lunch Mon-Fri, dinner 7 days, brunch Sun at Crosswoods. W, AE, CB, DC, Dis, MC, V; $$$.

Figlio, 1369 Grandview Ave. (northwest), 481-8850. One of the liveliest, and noisiest, gourmet pizza places in town. Look for pizzas such as kung pao and wild mushroom to emerge from the wood-burning oven. Open for dinner Mon-Sat; closed Sun. W; MC, V; $$.

Handke's Cuisine, 520 S. Front St. (German Village), 621-2500. A well-known chef has created a fine establishment here with delicious eclectic food and professional service. It has a somewhat formal air in an attractive beer cellar location. Open for lunch Mon-Fri, dinner Mon-Sat; closed Sun. AE, CB, Dis, MC, V; $$$$.

Hoster Brewing Company, 550 S. High St. (German Village), 228-6066. The menu at this microbrewery makes the most of simple fare such as chili, burgers and the delicious meatloaf. Wash the food down with one of the house brews. Open for lunch and dinner Mon-Sat; closed Sun. W, AE, CB, DC, Dis, MC, V; $$.

Hunan House, 2350 E. Dublin-Granville Rd. (northeast), 895-3330, and **Hunan Lion**, 2000 Bethel Rd. (northwest), 459-3933. Both restaurants regularly make the lists of Central Ohioans' favorite Chinese restaurants. They turn out superior Szechwan, Mandarin and Hunan specialties, including an interesting variety of appetizers, whole fish dishes, outstanding chicken Marengo and other gourmet Chinese dishes. Open for lunch and dinner 7 days. W; AE, CB, DC, MC, V; $$$.

Hyde Park Grille, 1615 Old Henderson Rd. (northwest), 442-3310. Hyde Park is a meat-eater's paradise. The beef comes in many variations and proportions, including filet mignon, strip and porterhouse steaks, plus some beefy dishes named for Ohio sports figures. Open for dinner Mon-Sat; closed Sun. W; Checks, AE, Dis, MC, V; $$$$. Make reservations, especially for Fridays and Saturdays.

Inn for All Seasons, 5252 Norwich St. (west), 771-7755. The comfy atmosphere of a renovated house is the setting for an excellent and creative lunch menu. Try the tomato beef soup or the vegetable lasagna. Dinner is good, too, followed by some commendable desserts. Open for lunch Tue-Fri, dinner Fri-Sat; closed Sun-Mon. W; Checks, Dis, MC, V; $$.

Katzinger's, 475 S. Third St. (German Village), 228-3354. Katzinger's is a Columbus institution. The sandwiches, whether loaded with corned beef, pastrami, smoked whitefish salad or made in one of the many combinations, merit applause. The rye bread is memorable. You can eat in the friendly confusion of the restaurant or carry out. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner 7 days. W; Checks; MC, V; $.

Lindey's, 169 E. Beck St. (German Village), 228-4343. A well-regarded bistro, Lindey's has fine cooking and service at lunch and dinner. Diners there love the gourmet pizzas as well as the pasta dishes, veal and tournedos of beef. Open for lunch and dinner 7 days; special late-night menu until midnight Thu-Sat. W; AE, DC, MC, V; $$$.

Mario's Internationale, 20 S. Third St. (downtown), 221-3850. Located across the street from the Ohio Statehouse, Mario's specializes in fine lunches for the political crowd. It also does a creditable job with dinner. Look for good soups, a good veal scallopine at dinner, and, for the beefeater at lunch, a Chateaubriand for one. The restaurant does its own baking. Open for lunch Mon-Fri, dinner Mon-Sat; closed Sun. W; AE, CB, DC, Dis, MC, V; $$$$.

Moretti's Italian Cafe, 1447 Grandview Ave. (northwest), 488-2104. The Moretti family serves some of the best no-nonsense Italian meals in town. The cannelloni and the veal dishes are outstanding, and so is the spinach lasagna. Don't pass up the homemade

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Photo: Chas Krider

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bread. Open for dinner Mon-Sat; closed Sun. W; MC, V; $$.

Morton's of Chicago, Two Nationwide Plaza (downtown), 464-4442. High-priced, top-quality steaks are the specialties. They are prepared to perfection and served with especially good side dishes and desserts, including beefsteak tomatoes with blue cheese dressing, spinach with mushrooms and soufflés for two. Open for dinner 7 days. W; AE, CB, DC, Dis, MC, V; $$$$.

New Gloria Restaurant, 2195 Riverside Dr. (northwest), 486-4547. Good, solid Italian-American food at reasonable prices in a comfortable setting. The Gloria does the unspectacular very well. Open for lunch Mon-Fri, dinner Mon-Sat; closed Sun. W; AE, CB, DC, MC, V; $$.

The Old Mohawk, 821 Mohawk St. (German Village), 444-7204. It's the traditional baby-boom menu in a classic German Village setting. There's tortilla salad and quesadillas, burgers, and also daily specials including meatloaf. Despite its evolution to yuppie hangout, the Mohawk still serves turtle soup. Open for lunch and dinner 7 days. AE, MC, V; $.

Old Swiss House, 961 S. High St. (German Village), 444-0131. A menu of superior Swiss-German cuisine, including sauerbraten, schnitzels and other veal dishes. Warm apple strudel is a fitting dessert. Open for lunch Mon-Fri, dinner Mon-Sat; closed Sun. W; Checks, AE, CB, DC, MC, V; $$$. Reservations suggested.

One Nation, atop One Nationwide Plaza (downtown), 221-0001. Its Sunday brunch lures hundreds each week to select among the dishes that cover five buffet tables in four dining rooms overlooking the city. Dinners are a good range of American cooking. Try the harvest soup. Open for lunch Mon-Fri, dinner 7 days, brunch Sun. W; AE, CB, DC, Dis, MC, V; $$$. Reservations recommended.

Otani, 5900 Roche Dr. (northeast), 431-3333. Columbus now has a large number of very good Japanese restaurants, and Otani is one of the best. Deft artists with their sharp knives work the sushi bar and turn out the famed raw-fish specialties. The dining room also serves a full menu of Japanese appetizers and entrees. Open for lunch Mon-Sat, dinner 7 days. W; AE, CB, DC, MC, V; $$$. Make reservations.

Plaza Restaurant, Hyatt on Capitol Square, 75 E. State St. (downtown), 228-1234. A very high-quality restaurant, featuring pastas of the day, entree salads, fresh seafood and roasts. A popular place for business lunches, and Sunday brunch is extravagant. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner 7 days, brunch Sun. W; AE, CB, DC, Dis, MC, V; $$$$. You are more likely to need reservations during the week than on weekends.

Red Door Tavern, 1736 W. Fifth Ave. (northwest), 488-5433. A casual neighborhood restaurant and a longtime favorite in northwest Columbus, offering unpretentious sandwiches such as grilled ham and cheese, hamburgers and a popular club sandwich. The pies are famous. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner Mon-Sat; closed Sun. W; Checks, AE, Dis, MC, V; $.

Refectory, 1092 Bethel Rd. (northwest), 451-9774. One of Columbus's most applauded restaurants, the Refectory is located in a restored 19th-century church. Recommended dishes include a simply prepared Dover sole, stuffed veal or, frankly, whatever is on the menu and strikes your fancy. The wine list is superb. Open for dinner Mon-Sat; closed Sun. W; AE, CB, DC, Dis, MC, V; $$$$. Make reservations.

Restaurant Japan, 1140 Kenny Center (northwest), 451-5411. Using first-class ingredients, this shopping-center restaurant specializes in sushi and sashimi, but also does a very good job with deep-fried tofu and tempura. Open for lunch Tue-Sat, dinner Tue-Sun; closed Mon. W; Checks, AE, MC, V; $$$.

Rigsby's, 698 N. High St. (near north), 461-7888. Our pick as the best restaurant in town. The frequently changing menu of American-style food with Italian overtones is full-flavored. It's one of those places where you can order at will: soups, pizzettes, pasta, salads, veal, seafood, fabulous desserts. Rigsby's sourdough bread is outstanding. Open for lunch and dinner Mon-Sat, brunch Sun. W; AE, CB, DC, MC, V; $$$$. Reservations recommended.

Sapporo Wind, 6188 Cleveland Ave. (northeast), 895-7575. This attractive Japanese restaurant excels with its appetizers, although it serves the usual sushi and dinner items well. Try pork dumplings or clams steamed in sake. Open for lunch Mon-Sat, dinner 7 days. W; AE, MC, V; $$.

Siam Oriental Restaurant, 4555 Bethel Rd. (northwest), 451-1109. The menu at Siam provides a nice mix of Chinese and Thai selections, and Columbusites who like Thai cuisine recommend the curries and Tom Yum soup. Its General Tso's chicken sets the standard for Central Ohio. Open for lunch and dinner 7 days. AE, MC, V; $$.

Spagio, 1295 Grandview Ave. (northwest), 486-1114. A high-energy gathering spot, Spagio serves "spa" food such as gourmet pizzas and pastas. Always leave room for dessert. Open for lunch and dinner Mon-Sat; closed Sun. Checks, AE, MC, V; $$. Reservations recommended.

Tandoori Chicken, 816 Bethel Rd. (northwest), 459-4101. The tandoori chicken is the best in town, but first get a bowl of the excellent mulligatawny soup. This also is the place for vegetarians to enjoy baked eggplant, in a dish called bengan bartha, and a fine vegetable curry. Open for lunch and dinner Tue-Sat; closed Mon. W; Checks, MC, V; $$.

Tony's Italian Ristorante, 16 W. Beck St. (German Village), 224-8669. A good place to sample Italian cooking in the near-downtown area. There is a nice selection of veal and chicken dishes, and the chef does a fine job on the fettuccine with crab and shrimp. Open for lunch Mon-Fri, dinner Mon-Sat; closed Sun. W; AE, DC, MC, V; $$$.

Trattoria Roma, 1270 Morse Rd. (northeast), 888-6686. This is a very small restaurant—only 18 tables—that has been gaining a big reputation. The menu is creative and encourages experimentation. Try the homemade pastas, such as spaghetti burina or seafood ravioli. Open for lunch Mon-Fri, dinner Mon-Sat; closed Sun. W; Checks, AE, DC, MC, V; $$.

Tucson's Cafe, 2465 E. Dublin-Granville Rd. (northeast), 523-2000. Lively and casual, Tucson's Cafe raises Southwestern cuisine to new heights in Columbus. Try the excellent guacamole, quesadillas and tamales individually or in the fantastico combination plate. The pollo en mole rojo and fajita burritos are outstanding entrees. Open for lunch Mon-Fri, dinner Mon-Sat; closed Sun. W; AE, MC, V; $.

Umberto's Caffè Dolce, Kingsdale Shopping Center, 451-2722, and Worthington Square, 431-3335 (both northwest). Cafeteria-style restaurants that feature a menu of appetizers, salads and entrees, and desserts that are a cut above. Choose gelato, sorbet or one of the fancy pastries. Open for lunch and dinner 7 days. W; Checks, AE, MC, V; $$.

Worthington Inn, 649 High St., Worthington (northwest), 885-7700 or 885-2600. This restored country inn serves a modern and imaginative menu with some Mediterranean overtones. But it hasn't abandoned the standbys such as roast lamb or prime rib. Fine quality ingredients combine in thoughtful ways in the kitchen. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner 7 days. W; AE, CB, DC, Dis, MC, V; $$$.

Zao, 4615 Northtowne Blvd. (northeast), 471-1828. In addition to traditional Japanese appetizers—sushi, sashimi, tofu—there are a number of noodle dishes, as well as tempura and sukiyaki. Open for dinner 7 days. W; AE, CB, DC, MC, V; $$. Reservations suggested. ■

Bargain Bits

ANN SEREN &
MAGGIE KOZELEK

DESIGNER LABELS **Labels 4 Less** is a new store at the Brice Outlet Mall (formerly Scarborough Mall) specializing in designer-label women's clothing and accessories at liquidation prices, sometimes as low as $5, $10 and $15.

According to Janne Boswell, one of the owners, merchandise comes from buyouts at New York stores including Bonwit Teller, Bloomingdale's and Lord and Taylor. Merchandise goes from polyester to designer.

When we visited, we saw a long Carolyne Roehm dress for $30 that still displayed the original $1,270 price tag from Bonwit Teller. We also saw a Victor Costa formal for $50 that had been $300. A $139 Laura Ashley was $35. Sizes are from 2 to 22 and styles come in all seasons. We also saw Bill Blass, Liz Claiborne, Perry Ellis, Leslie Fay and Esprit labels. *Labels 4 Less, 5820 Scarborough Mallway, 864-4414. Open Mon-Sat 10 am-9 pm, Sun noon-5 pm.*

TUXEDOS ETC. Pre-owned clothing shops for men finally have come to Columbus, and now there's another new one, called **Again—for Men**.

This shop is strictly consignment, and merchandise is kept for 90 days. After 30 days, the initial price is reduced 20 percent; after 60 days, it's cut 40 percent, and eventually there's a final clearance price. The original prices run approximately one-third of new. Owner Michael Perrini told us that he only accepts "next-to-new" condition; items usually are not more than two years old.

Suits and jackets dominate, but we also saw shirts, ties and coats. Brand names included Halston, Bill Blass, Austin Reed and Hart Schaffner & Marx.

At this time of the year, Perrini emphasizes formalwear. We saw a complete outfit—tuxedo, cummerbund, tie and suspenders—priced at $150. Another example was a never-worn tuxedo at $125. The pants never had been cuffed, but for this suit and all others, there is on-site tailoring. For the flamboyant partygoer, we saw a $250 camel overcoat with a large mink collar. *Again—for Men, 9240 Dublin Rd. (north of Glick Road), 889-0510. Open Mon-Sat 10 am-6 pm.*

SHOES The **Shoe Zoo** is a new clearance outlet that sells only first-quality adult dress and athletic footwear. We were told by Dennis Tishkoff, CEO of Tishkoff Enterprises, which operates the store, that there are at least 20,000 pairs of shoes in inventory at all times, and new merchandise is added weekly. Shoes come from about 150 stores nationwide and are sold here at up to 60 percent less than the original price.

Brand names for men include Botany 500, Heartland and Florsheim, and women's include Evan Picone, 9 West and Eastland. There are Nike, Reebok, Keds and LA Gear athletic shoes for men and women. When we visited, there were special-price tables, and among the $9.99 women's shoes were Life Stride, Sandra Miller, Selby and Naturalizer.

The name Shoe Zoo reflects Tishkoff's interest in the Columbus Zoo and the endangered species program there in particular. Consequently 25 cents for each pair sold is donated to that cause. *The Shoe Zoo, 767 Bethel Rd. (at Olentangy River Road), 538-0506. Open Mon-Sat 9:30 am-9 pm, Sun noon-6 pm.*

HOLIDAY GIFTS With "A Celebration of Traditions" at the **Ohio Historical Center** and **Ohio Village**, visitors will enjoy not only a look at the past but also an opportunity to purchase holiday gifts at reasonable prices.

The shops in the village offer items made by resident craft people. The tinsmith, for example, has hand-crafted items like small bread pans, two for $9.50, up to chandeliers and George Washington reproduction coffeepots. The Broom and Basket Shop has a wide variety of baskets, and the gunsmith offers custom-made rifles and knives as well as traditional turkey calls. The weaving shop sells hand-woven place mats, and the cabinetmaker offers Christmas ornaments from $5 up to Country Hepplewhite worktables for $430 and up.

Admission also is a bargain: $4 for adults and $1 for children 6 and over. Shopping is enhanced with hands-on activities, music, demonstrations and seasonal food.
The Ohio Historical Center and Village, 1982 Velma Ave. (just west of I-71 at 17th), 297-2300. For December the Village is open Wed-Sun 12:30-9 pm. The Center is open Mon-Sat 9 am-9 pm, Sun 10 am-9 pm. ■

Send sale and bargain suggestions two months before sale to: Bargain Bits, Columbus Monthly, P.O. Box 29913, Columbus, Ohio 43229-7513. No phone calls, please.

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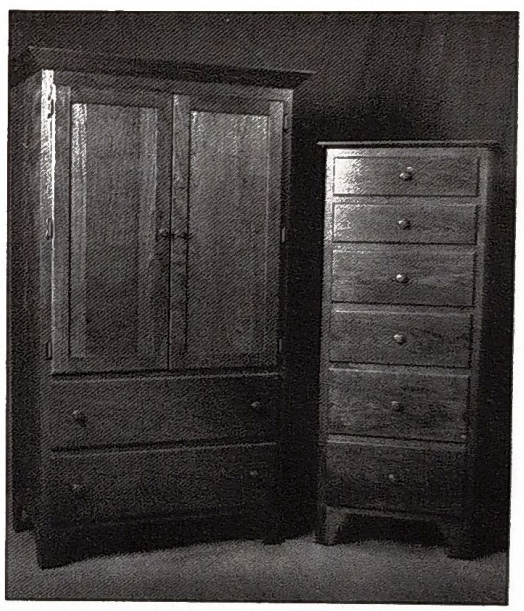

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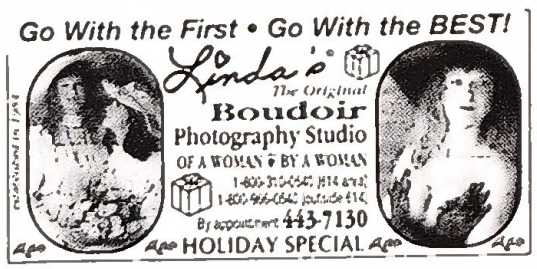


ARTS & FRAMING

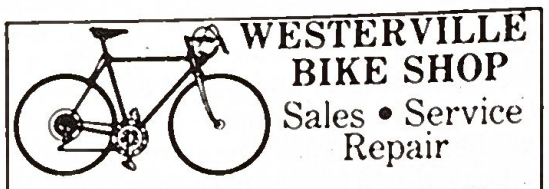
BATHTUBS

REFINISHED, $119. Porcelain, marble, fiberglass. Sinks, shower tile, wall tile. 444-4551.

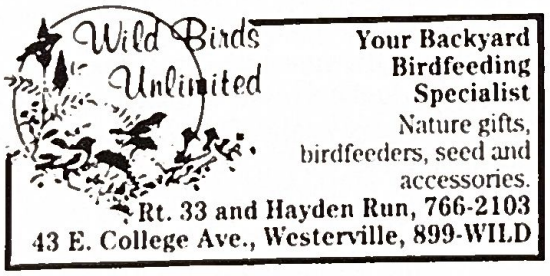
BED & BREAKFAST

GRANDMA'S HOUSE BED & BREAKFAST. Consider Christmas shopping weekend in Amish country. (216) 682-5112.

BICYCLES



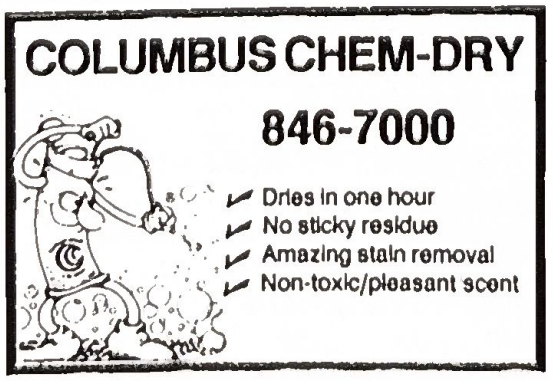
BIRDS



BUILDERS

BRADLEY BUILDERS—Quality remodeling at an affordable price. References. 898-7068.

CARPET CLEANING



CATERERS

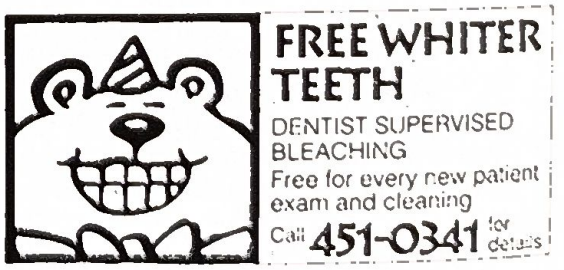
PERFECT FLOUR BAKING COMPANY, 4540 anola Ave., 263-4125 or fax, 263-4125. Pa breads, donuts baked fresh daily. Let us cate staff breakfast and luncheons. Specializing in ecutive brown-bag lunch and party trays. Call day!!

CLOCKS

CLOSETS

ORGANIZED CLOSETS—We MAXIMIZE your closet space. Stop by our store at 384 Morrison Rd. or call 863-1500.

DENTAL CARE



ENTERTAINMENT

TOM CARROLL, GUITARIST—Music for all occasions. Solo, trio and combo. 231-7836 or 1-587-1227.

PIANO MUSIC. All the standards. Experienced. Keith Krieger, 488-4380.

PARTY PONIES—Pony rides for any occasion delivered to your location. 1-967-7669.

HARPIST—An elegant touch for your event. Miriam Weber Brown, 898-0900.

Columbus's Premier
EXECUTIVE
ENTERTAINMENT
CENTER

Columbus's Finest Live Entertainment
After Work Happy Hour
Daily 2-7 pm, Sat 6-9 pm

CLUB CABARET

161 & CLEVELAND AVE. • COLUMBUS SQUARE
Bachelor Parties, Birthdays, Promotions, Office Parties
OPEN: Mon-Fri 2 pm-2:30 am, Sat 6 pm-2:30 am

GOOD VIBRATIONS—DJs—Great music for all occasions. Vast selection. Weddings, company parties, reunions etc. Herb, Vicki, 927-1858.

LESLIE VIKTORA, PIANIST. Holiday favorites and classical music. (Keyboard available.) 299-9289.

ESCAPE/RESORT RENTALS

KEY WEST Private house—2 bedrooms, pool. Rent weekly, monthly. (800) 654-5131.

SNOWMASS, COLORADO—Ski vacation, 4-bedroom home. Call (614) 846-3010 for information.

GATLINBURG—60 new chalets-logs, whirlpools, fireplaces. Brochure, (800) 223-6264.

KEY WEST—Private courtyard with cottage and pool. Walk to beach. Affordable. Marjorie Bradburn, 1405 Second St., Key West, Florida 33040. (305) 294-5283.

Step into Paradise Gardens Nudist Resort
Swim in an Olympic-sized swimming pool. Relax in the hot tub and/or sauna. Play volleyball and badminton. Sunbathe on the beautifully landscaped grounds. Picnic beside the crystal-clear, one-acre lake. Rent a trailer, bring your RV and use full-hookups or pitch a tent. Participate in PG activities and dance parties. Snack bar is available for your convenience.
For more information call: (513) 385-4189
Member American Sunbathing Association

ESCORT SERVICES

Intimate Companions

Ready for fun and excitement with an alluring new escort or relaxation with a sensitive companion? Call us for the ultimate in beautiful and personable young ladies. We have that someone special for you. Rates by the hour, the evening or for dinner dates. Friendly consultants on duty to give you a profile of available models and discuss your personal needs and fantasies. Strictly Confidential.

FROM 6 PM TO 6 AM
231-8777
Escort Outcall Agency

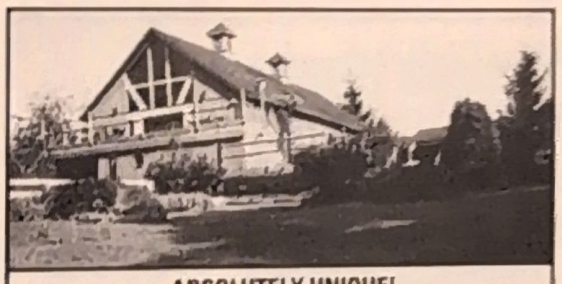
EXCLUSIVE HOMES
Your listing will be seen by more than 120,000 Columbus Monthly readers. There is no better way for potential buyers to see the finer, upscale residences you have available.
888-4567

EXCLUSIVE HOMES

- Most buyers in 1991 for King Thompson/Holzer-Wollam
- CBR Realtor Salesperson of the Year for 1991
- CBR 25 Million Dollar Club
- OAR President's Sales Club
- Presidents Council

WEDGEWOOD
Elegant entry leads you into this Pizzuti & Sons custom-built two-story near the golf course. Soaring ceilings, open floor plan, 4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, maple cabinetry throughout, 3 fireplaces. Picturesque setting looking out from your cedar deck onto a beautiful wooded lot. $540s.

Barbara Lach, CRS, GRI
King Thompson/Holzer-Wollam,
451-0808 or 481-8484



ABSOLUTELY UNIQUE!
Bordered by a creek, this charming home has 3,600 square feet designed for family living and entertaining! Shelter house/stable has four stalls and apartment area. Three-car garage. Can be purchased with 10 or 20 acres. Multiple decks, hot tub and screened porch! This executive offering is 30 minutes from downtown Columbus. Call for private showing. Priced over $400,000. As featured in *Columbus Homes & Lifestyles.*

Offered by: Ramona Nieman
HER Realtors
471-7668

FINANCIAL

INSTANT CASH LOANS
UNCLE•SAM'S•PAWN•SHOP
225 EAST MAIN STREET
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215
221-PAWN

NEED CASH? We have buyers for seller-financed mortgages and trust deeds. (614) 265-1881. JMZ & Associates. Member National Mortgage Investors Association.

FLOOR COVERINGS

POOR OLD PEDDLER'S CARPET BARN—Rolls, remnants, Oriental rugs, carpet tiles, ceramic tiles and wood flooring. Prices to fit your pocketbook! As seen in Bargain Bits. 837-8597.

FOUNTAIN PENS

Old And New Pens
Fountain Pen Restoration
Sales • Service • Repair
Vintage Fountain Pens
3520 N. High St.
Columbus, Ohio
267-8468 • 263-0284

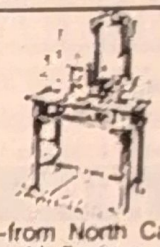
FUND RAISING

REDUCE YOUR TAXES. Donate securities, real estate, cash, cars, antiques, art etc. to American Council of the Blind of Ohio. For information about ACBO, call 221-6688.

FURNITURE

NORTH CAROLINA FURNITURE SHOWROOMS. Confused? Who has the best prices? We provide lowest prices, inside delivery and set-up. (800) 227-6060.

MAJOR BRANDS OF FURNITURE at tremendous savings. Call or write LOFTIN-BLACK Furniture Company, 111 Sedgehill Dr., Thomasville, N.C. 27360. Telephone (800) 334-7398. Nationwide home delivery.



BUY DIRECT—from North Carolina, furniture capital of the world. Savings up to 45%. Over 400 manufacturers. Uses in-home delivery service nationwide. Homeway Furniture, 3278 Morse Rd., Columbus, in the Chateau Morse Plaza. (614) 476-4919.

GIFT BASKETS

GIFT BASKETS. Fruit baskets or fruit by the case. Business or individuals. 231-BUCK (2825). Roth Produce, 4561 E. 5th Ave.

GIFTS

PLAY IT SMART®. Intellectual non-trivia Q&A game. Perfect gift for the intelligent gamesperson. Send $27.95 to Puffin Corp., P.O. Box 2002, Huntersville, N.C. 28078. Credit cards (800) 258-5302.

GREAT GIFTS AND HOLIDAY ITEMS at Setting The Scene, Dublin Village Center (between White's and Phar-Mor). (614) 792-5467.

GOURMET FOODS

Thurn's
Specialty Meats, Inc.
Old World Hams
Smoked and Baked
ALSO
• SMOKED TURKEYS
• GIFT BASKETS
Call today 443-1449
530 Greenlawn Ave at I-71 South
Thursday & Friday 8 am-6 pm
Saturday 7 am-1 pm

community MARKETPLACE

GERMAN VILLAGE

THOMPSON'S HAUS OF ANTIQUES. 499 S. Third St. Quality and selection make the difference. 224-1740.

GRANVILLE

VICTORIA'S OLDE TYME DELI & SIDEWALK CAFE. Super sandwiches. Divine desserts. Frozen yogurt. Sunday brunch. 134 E. Broadway, (614) 587-0322.

LANCASTER

STUDIO B/THE GALLERY AT STUDIO B—The best framing and fine art in Columbus comes from Lancaster. 140 W. Main St., (800) 794-9053.

FARMER'S COUNTRY STORE—Crafts, quilts, calicos, dolls & antiques. 540 N. High St., 1-654-4853.

SHORT NORTH

DOOLEY & COMPANY REALTORS. Your midtown real estate specialists. 297-8600.

RILEY HAWK GALLERIES. Representing nationally known glass artists. 642 N. High St., 228-6554.

Classified Ads 888-4567

UPTOWN WESTERVILLE

The Blue Goose

- ♥ Cat's Meow including OSU
- ♥ Lizzie High® dolls
- ♥ Rowe pottery
- ♥ Muffy bears
- ♥ Yankee candles

Monday-Saturday 10 am-5 pm
Wednesday until 9 pm

29 W. Main St.
890-008

My Cousin's Closet

RESALE HOME DECORATION ON CONSIGNMENT

No appointment necessary
Owners: Chris Callahan, Sharon Meye
16-18 E. College Ave., Westerville, Oh
Monday-Saturday 10 am-6 pm • 899-61

HEALTH SERVICES

LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPISTS. AMTA members. Northwest-Arlington/Grandview. 488-8844.

LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPIST—Near 270 and Morse Road. Deborah Link, 476-5072.

GWENDOLYN DAWN SURRATT. Licensed massage therapist, Grandview area. (614) 488-3987.

THE MASSAGE HEALTH CENTER—Therapeutic, sports massage, steam, whirlpool, shower, gift certificates. Rick Kirschner, AMTA member, and Linda Fuhrer, 863-0073.

LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPY. Near King Shopping Center. Marie Williams, AMTA me 538-8684.

MASSAGE THERAPISTS—Near downtown ir man Village, Gretchen Baker, 221-4949.

LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPIST. Victorian V lage. Dominic Fox, 299-7075.

LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPY. Clintonville. Judith Spater, AMTA member. 262-8886.

Columbus Monthly Classified Order Form
(614) 888-4567

I enclose $ _____ for _____ words at $2 per word per month (minimum 10 words).

- ☐ Repeat my ad for 3 months; I have deducted 10%.
- ☐ Repeat my ad for 6 months; I have deducted 15%.
- ☐ Repeat my ad for 12 months; I have deducted 20%.
- ☐ I want to rent a numbered box. I have enclosed an additional $15 per month.

Total enclosed: $ _____ (check or money order—do not mail cash.)

Charge to : ☐ Visa
Charge to: ☐ MasterCard Account # _____ Expires _____

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE (9-5 weekdays) _____ SIGNATURE _____

MAIL FORM TO: Classified Ad Manager, Columbus Monthly, 5255 Sinclair Rd., P.O. Box 29913, Columbus, Ohio 43229-7513.

Classified line ads are $2 per word, 10-word minimum. Box numbers and telephone numbers count as two words. A 10% discount will be allowed for ads repeated 3 times; 15% for ads repeated 6 times; 20% for ads repeated 12 consecutive months. All classifieds must be paid in advance by check or money order; ads may also be charged to your VISA or MasterCard account. Columbus Monthly box numbers are available for rental at an additional charge of $15 for each time your ad appears. Ad copy with payment must be received no later than the first of the month preceding the issue (example: May 1 for the June issue). All ads are accepted at the discretion of the publisher.
Classified Personal ads are $20 for 30 words, $1 for each additional word. Handling charge, $15. No discounts apply.
Classified display ads are $80 per column inch (camera-ready), 1-inch minimum.
For information call the classified manager at (614) 888-4567.

Here is my ad to be run in the _____ issue(s):

Copy: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____ Category desired: _____

HOME ACCESSORIES

THE PEWTER GOOSE. A distinctive selection of home accessories and gifts with an English flavor. 2108 Arlington Ave. 486-8116.

NFL Team Mailboxes
Show your true colors: Postmaster General approved **NFL Team Helmet Mailbox.** 17" deep x 19" high available for NFL Teams. Terrific holiday gift! Send $99.95 (plus $5.95 shipping & handling) with desired team to: The Mail Box Merchant, 4719 Reed Rd., Sort #333, Columbus, OH 43220. Satisfaction guaranteed.

INSTRUCTION

HOLIDAY PIANO WORKSHOPS. Play your favorites by Christmas. Midwest Keyboard Institute. 299-9289.

JEWELRY

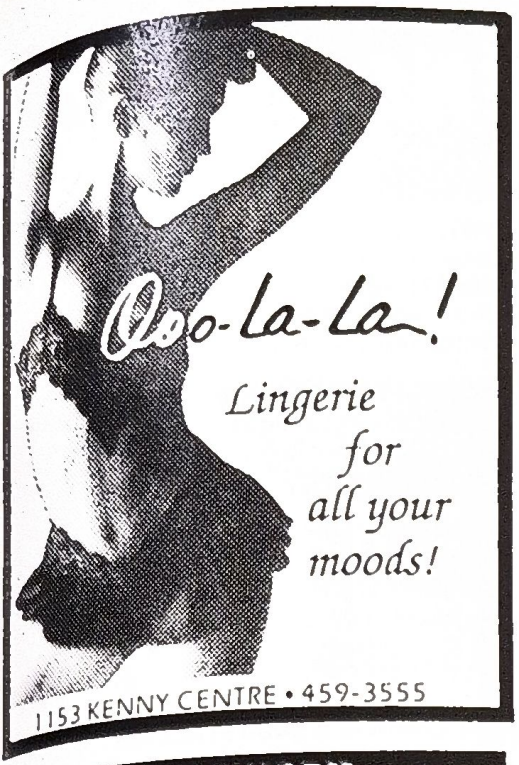
1.66 CARAT MODIFIED EMERALD CUT DIAMOND in a 14K gold setting. Size 6.75. A.G.S. appraisal of $6,250. Call 459-5917.

LINGERIE

Dream Street *a lovers boutique*

- ❦ Sexy Lingerie
- ❦ Leather
- ❦ Push-up Bras
- ❦ Adult Novelties

LINGERIE Intimo
Karric Square Center
Dublin, Ohio 798-0030



NEEDLEWORK

DOUBLE CROSS—Specializing in counted cross-stitch, Hardanger embroidery, pulled and drawn thread, samplers, duplicate stitch. Classes available. 147 W. Olentangy St., 761-9406.

Forget-Me-Not Needleworks

Gift Certificates are always the right size and color.

20 N. State St., Westerville, OH 43081 • 882-4288

NURSES

RNs, LPNs, NURSE'S AIDES and companions are available around the clock from OLSTEN. Screened, bonded, insured. Call 486-5255. Founded 1950.

PET SERVICES

DOG OWNERS! PET BUTLER, now in our FIFTH YEAR of reliable dog-waste removal service. Competitive prices. Satisfaction guaranteed. Call PET BUTLER, 235-0104.

HOME PET CARE. Experienced pet care for all animals—dogs, cats, horses, etc. TIME LADIES-CARE. "Our time is your time." Bonded and insured. 24-hour service. (614) 459-7467.

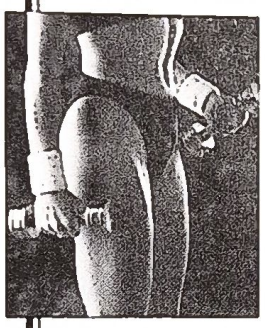
CAVALIER KING CHARLES SPANIELS OF RATTLEBRIDGE

"Distinctive Companions for the Discriminating"

To inquire about availability of our champion sired, adorable puppies, call Rattlebridge Farm. We welcome visitors. References Required.
Al Snyder and Meredith Johnson-Snyder
(614) 548-6515

PHOTOGRAPHY

If you've got it, preserve it forever with a unique personal portrait by Pete Nitschke.



Pete Nitschke Photography

Upper Arlington • 486-0116

PORTRAIT SPECIAL $65.00 898-3841

POSITION WANTED

WANTED: MENTOR. Young entrepreneurial spirit desires opportunity to learn and work hard. Have degree, common sense, initiative, people skills and intelligence. If you can use a dedicated and loyal "go-getter," write to P.O. Box 16837, Columbus, Ohio 43216.

PSYCHIC SERVICES

PSYCHIC CONSULTANTS—Kay Frain and Jacqueline Hearsum as heard on WTVN. Jean Innis, Astrologer. COLUMBUS PSYCHIC AWARENESS CENTER. Please call for an appointment. 488-5507.

ROOFING

ABLE ROOFING—444-ROOF (7663). 10 percent off up to $500. Present within 24 hours of written estimate.

SHOE REPAIR

KINGSDALE SHOE, LUGGAGE REPAIR—Service, dye work. Kingsdale Shopping Center, 451-1543.

SPORTS EQUIPMENT

CALIFORNIA'S HOTTEST new toy. New form of transportation, GO-PED. It looks like a scooter and is easier to ride than a bicycle. 100 mpg, weighs 22 lbs., goes 20 mph and has a 400-pound capacity. Nothing else is even close to this much fun! $499. You may need to bring home flowers because Go-Peds are available at Bill's Botany Boutique, (614) 221-5655, or call Davy Williams at (813) 898-1720.

TABLE PADS

ANY SIZE TABLE $29.95. Leaves additional. Free measurements. Regal Pad Company, 443-4100, 10 am-6 pm.

TRAINS

AMERICAN FLYER TRAINS, accessories and equipment; erector sets. Cash paid. Jim, 847-1545, evenings.

VIDEOS

VIDEO SPECIALTIES—Weddings, special events, parties. Clown available. 875-8785.

COLUMBUS MONTHLY PERSONALS

Call 1-900-370-2063 to respond to Personal Call® ads.

PERSONALS

THREE WAYS TO RESPOND TO COLUMBUS MONTHLY PERSONAL ADS

1. **By phone.** You can respond to any Columbus Monthly ad that has a four-digit box number (EXAMPLE ☎ 5999) by calling 1-900-370-2063 @ $1.50 per minute. Ages 18 and older only.

2. **By mail.** You can respond by addressing your envelope to Columbus Monthly Personal Ads, 5255 Sinclair Rd., P.O. Box 29913, Columbus, Ohio 43229-7513. Indicate the box number in the lower left-hand corner of the envelope. All replies are forwarded to advertisers once a week. **Please use nothing larger than a #10 business envelope (9½" x 4⅛").**

3. Both by mail and by phone.

KEY

S—Single	W—White
D—Divorced	B—Black
M—Male	O—Oriental
F—Female	P—Professional
G—Gay	J—Jewish

DWPM, 38—I'm looking for someone to share some time with exploring life. My guess is that she's had her ups and downs because she's intelligent, outgoing, sensitive and caring, and is looking for meaning. Sound like you? Take a chance. ☎ 1086

SWPM: ATTRACTIVE, ATHLETIC, humorous, well-educated, SWPM seeking similar qualities in SWPF, 26-33. Must be honest, outgoing nonsmoker. Also enjoy movies, sporting events and cultural events. Please respond with note, phone number, photo. ☎ 1111

SOCIALLY CONSCIOUS, 49-YEAR-OLD MALE seeks a woman who cares about her mind and body. I am looking for a friend and confidante. I enjoy most things and am adaptable. Very easygoing. Moderate drinker and smoker who enjoys exercise. If we can talk, let's talk. Please respond by phone or mail. Race or ethnic origin unimportant. ☎ 1121

SEEKING SPECIAL LADY. DWPM, 48, 6'2", 190 lbs., desires to meet special lady with a touch of class who is stable, fun-loving, spontaneous, who enjoys a myriad of activities and communications without game playing. If you could appreciate a gentleman who enjoys giving, I'm here. No risk, no reward. Note and photo preferred. ☎ 1156

FUN-LOVING, WHITE COUPLE, he's 40, she's 26. Seek WM, 30s, to share quality time and experiences in near future. Photo, short note of interests, vital stats and phone appreciated. ☎ 1153

I'VE ALWAYS DREAMT OF A HOUSE FILLED with light, laughter, chili on the stove, children and pets underfoot, and friends over for supper. You'd complete the picture if you're a SWM, 35-45, with strong values, intellectual curiosity and active faith. I'm an ordinary, SWF, late 30s, but extraordinarily caring, liberal, pensive and stubborn. Write and tell me your dreams. ☎ 1154

SUCCESSFUL, FIT, BRIGHT and articulate, DWPM, businessman, 40+, seeks same in independent woman, early 30s-early 40s. My interests include but are not limited to golf, skiing, theatre, travel, the arts and fine dining. My preference is for slender, cerebral and passionate. I'm looking for a special friend. Note and photo appreciated. ☎ 1155

ONCE UPON A TIME, a farmer's daughter, now a venturesome widow. Interests: classic cars and '50s music, forest paths and seashores, psychology and philosophy, desiring to meet Christian man, 40-60, for fun and friendship, perhaps love and laughter. ☎ 1157

COLUMBUS MONTHLY PERSONALS

Call 1-900-370-2063 (using a touch-tone phone) to respond to Personal Call® ads. $1.50 a minute. Ages 18 and older only. Columbus Monthly, 888-4567.

DWPF SEEKING FRIENDSHIP with man, approximately 30-45. Enjoy music, theatre, movies, outdoors. Traditional values, sensitive and caring. Modern-day woman with an old-fashioned heart. Send letter to respond. ☎ 1158

KIDS AT COLLEGE—DW career mom, sparkling blue eyes, attractive, outgoing . . . seeking flexible, S/DWP gentleman, 45-62, high achiever. Enjoy business, music, sports, lighthearted camaraderie, monogamous love. Come laugh with me? ☎ 1159

SWPM, 32, 5'10", 150 lbs., attractive, health conscious, physically fit, easygoing, romantic. Enjoys dining out, music, movies, outdoors, reading. Seeking S/DWF, 22-35, nonsmoker, weight proportionate to height. Prefer letter. ☎ 1160

WARM, BRIGHT, PRACTICAL DREAMER, DWPF, seeks man to share love of old houses, galleries, Drexel movies, concerts, ideas. I'm nonsmoking, attractive, fit, out of the ordinary, young 55, who believes best is yet to come! Letter appreciated. ☎ 1161

ATTRACTIVE, SWPF desires friendship with Christian, professional male, (33-40). Looking for fun and spontaneity. I enjoy running, tennis, skiing, swimming, music, travel abroad, culture, church. ☎ 1163

SWPF, EXECUTIVE, 5'8", blue-green eyes, brown hair, physically fit nonsmoker, enjoys aerobics, bicycling, gourmet cooking, travel, snorkeling/scuba, seeking S/DWM, professional or executive, 33-44, 5'10" or taller, physically fit, attractive, conservative, well-educated, pleasant, caring personality. ☎ 1162

CHRISTIAN, SWPM, 36, look 27, very handsome, talented, good build, successful, wants attractive, SWF/SWPF, who is caring, understanding, supportive, Christian, to be spiritually intimate with and if God leads will blossom into marriage. ☎ 1164

30-YEAR-OLD, SBPM, PHYSICIAN, new to area. Attractive, warm personality, nonsmoker. Seeking attractive, SF, 22-31, professional or student. Casual dating, dinner, theatre, events, possible relationship. Phone, photo appreciated. ☎ 1165

DWPM, 52, 6'1", 200 lbs. This sensitive, caring and romantic male is self-employed and enjoys varied activities. Cooking for two, movies, theatre, concerts, dining out, dancing, walks, books, sports and quiet times. Seeking intelligent, secure and attractive female, 47-54, with similar interests for permanent relationship. Only serious replies, please. Photo and note appreciated. ☎ 1166

DWF, 51, CARING, sensitive, educated, attractive nonsmoker, childless, with varied active and sedentary interests. Would like to meet unmarried, WPM with similar characteristics and good relationship skills. Written response requested. ☎ 1167

DWPM, 54, PREFERS TRIM, WF with warm h... big ears, easy laugh, deliberate pace, straight talk, able promises and love of herself, people, life an... environment. ☎ 1168

GORGEOUS LABRADOR RETRIEVER seeks ... (human) to meet my special dad (also human) for ... ble relationship. He is tall, handsome, intelligen... tle, housebroken, SWPM. Looking for positive, ... ed, fit nonsmoker, 25-35. Photo and note appre... ☎ 1169

THE EARTH IS A GOOD PLACE FOR LOVE. ... Christian, bright, athletic, tall (5'11"), slend... vanced degrees, very successful and selective ... very slender, thin, athletic woman, 35-47, who ... bright, sensitive, caring and loving, for friendsh... romance. Respond with photo and letter. ☎ 5845

SWM, 30s—5'5", trim and nice looking, financially secure and no dependents. Somewhat unconventional. Weekend social drinker. Extremely open-minded and understanding. I enjoy camping, canoeing, animals, biking, kite flying, foreign sports cars, cooking, old houses etc. Looking to meet tomboy for best friend, lover and companion. ☎ 1025

GWPM, 50, 6', 185 lbs., brown hair, blue eyes, look 40, seeking man who is intense, brooding, passionate and new to gay scene who would like to go to upscale restaurants, movies, plays and dancing, and spend a few quiet evenings at home. ☎ 1170

MERRY CHRISTMAS, DEAR DOCTOR—I have cancelled my personal ad as you requested. Hope that you're not reading other personal ads. I'm looking forward to many smiles and being together. ☎ 1122

IF YOU LIKE MATISSE, Beethoven, Streep and Updike, that's a start. A bright, pretty, genuine woman (40-55) wins a witty, good looking, honest guy. Commitment, photo help. ☎ 1172

SWPF, 29, NEWLY RELOCATED. Seeks creative, adventurous, spontaneous, S/DPM. I'm attractive, educated, very real, healthy emotionally/spiritually. Committed to empowerment, living a program, rational thinking. Nonsmoker, nondrinker. Letters only, please. ☎ 1173

SWPF, 30, SEARCHING FOR nonsmoking, intelligent, financially secure, educated, SWPM, 25-35, to be my best friend, lover and life partner. Enjoys foreign and domestic travel, movies, fine dining, exercise/workout, meaningful conversation and quiet time. Respond with letter, phone, photo. ☎ 1174

SWM, SUCCESSFUL ENTREPRENEUR, 41, 5'10", 190 lbs., excellent physical condition, work out daily and play a variety of sports. If you take pride in yourself, like I do, and would like to be spoiled, please call. ☎ 1175

DWPF, I AM VERY SOCIABLE, will always mix. Culture vulture, but not stuffy. Lots of temperament, but not huffy. And values that are traditional. Seeking S/DWPM, 30-40. Letters only. ☎ 1177

EMPLOYED, AVERAGE-LOOKING, 38-year-old black man, 5'9", seeks S/DBF, 36-43, who is into church and prayer, interested in jogging and working out, medium to skinny only. ☎ 1178

PRETTY, SINCERE, SLENDER, SWF, enjoys communicating, the arts, exercise, affection, learning. Looking for handsome, emotionally aware, educated man, 35-45, for mutually supportive, honest relationship. Commitment and growth-oriented only. Note and photo appreciated. ☎ 1182

USE THIS FORM TO PLACE YOUR

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SWM, 33, "As time stands still for no one." Coffeeshop philosopher, active, athletic, 6'1", 165 lbs., is looking for female who is a fun combination of "angel in white, and the daughter of the devil himself." ☎ 1181

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FINALE

Continued from page 120

when you are filled with an overwhelming sense of calm, clarity and pleasure.

My buzz lasted for about a day, but the memory of the Grand Canyon is still fresh—in fact, the memory of all 6,862 miles encompassing two countries, 16 states and 17 days. For a while in the fall of 1977, after we returned home, I wore the big, black, floppy hat I bought in Arizona and just walked around feeling cool, real cool.

In the 15 years that have passed, a lot has happened to the four of us, some of it good, most of it routine, some of it horrific. Of the three who married, one got divorced. Three graduated from college. One went to work for the state. One spent 13 years searching: for the right job, the right woman, the meaning to life. He's found the woman and passed the bar exam (although still looking for work), and the meaning of life is no longer a topic of late-night conversations. Three settled in Columbus; one went to Oregon. One died of a rare cancer. One has spent two weeks in a mysterious coma.

I think we all have thought about trying, in some way, to re-create The Trip, the magic and joy we found driving that mini-home around the country. And I believe each of us has wondered, at some point, if we will ever have our own personal Grand Canyon again. ■

Ray Paprocki is a staff writer for Columbus Monthly.

FINALE

RAY
PAPROCKI
DRAWING BY JEFF STAHLER

Daybreak at the Grand Canyon

I got a call awhile back from a man who recently had emerged from a coma. He is an old acquaintance from high school, whom I hadn't seen in years. I had heard about his coma from others, and was bewildered. The story was unclear. He was found by his fiancée on the floor of her home, with her son's backpack under his head, snoring. He wouldn't wake up. In the hospital, he stayed in a coma for a couple of weeks. After regaining consciousness, he remembered nothing of the incident. Nobody knows the cause. Maybe he fell down the steps, maybe he didn't.

He doesn't understand what really happened. In fact, after he was released from the hospital, he was still fuzzy about his stay there. Today, he's married, seemingly happy (to be alive) and carries a long blank spot on his memory tape.

Our brief phone conversation and a subsequent lunch reminded me of the strange unpredictability of life, at the same time that it refreshed an enduring memory—a milestone event in both of our lives. Fifteen years ago, he and I, along with two other friends, went on a big adventure. The four of us—right out of Northland High School—postponed our college careers at Ohio State University a couple of months to travel for 17 days from Columbus to Los Angeles, stopping at various points in between.

In hindsight, it is remarkable that The Trip ever happened. It was probably the last time in the history of American civilization that anyone reputable rented an expensive vehicle to four 18-year-olds. Actually, three 18-year-olds—the 17-year-old lied about his age to meet the rental agency's requirements. The vehicle was a Honey mini-home, with automatic transmission, a shower, sink, stove, stereo (yes!), cabinets galore and enough bunk space for a semipro basketball team. It was a dream machine, and for $375 a week it was ours. The dealer—the now defunct Liberty Bell in Canal Winchester—had to be desperate for cash; everybody else just laughed when we asked about renting their homes on wheels.

Our travel plan took us to St. Louis at dusk and to the Arch, its curved steel gleaming in the setting sun. We drove through the vast openness of Oklahoma, and up and over and around the mountains of New Mexico. We saw the exploitation of Native Americans ("Real Indians 300 feet," read one sign), and cactus as tall as telephone poles. We experienced our own meaning of petrified, as in paralyzed with boredom, not with fear, on visiting the petrified, as in hard as rock, forest.

We learned that, contrary to a friend's assertion, people west of the Mississippi were not all that anxious to barter a case of Coors for a case Stroh's. This was the pre-Silver Bullet era, when the beer had a cultlike status and wasn't available east of Iowa. We also found out, however, that 20 cases of Coors bought in Texas made for a nice profit when sold to friends in Ohio.

There was our visit in Phoenix with Bud Katz. Anybody who lived in Columbus in the 1970s and watched Channel 6 vividly remembers Bud Katz, Columbus's answer to Bozo the Clown. Except he was a sportscaster. After getting dumped here, Katz and his knee-slapping sideshow found a home in Phoenix, where one fall evening he chatted with four "fans" from Columbus. Maybe he wasn't such a buffoon after all.

We *experienced* L.A.—driving on its 64-lane, 14-tier highways and gasping at its picturesque coastal views. We stumbled onto the filming of a Bert Convey movie *(Racquet)* that set up in the lot where our mobile home was parked. One of us was duped into taking a Scientology survey on Sunset Boulevard and nearly was convinced of the need for deep and constant counseling. And if you watched the "Tonight Show" on Oct. 28, 1977 (guest host, Tommy Smothers), and heard "AHHHHHHHHHHHH" right after the introductions . . . that was me.

We were dazzled by the star-spangled, neon-glitz of Las Vegas, the Greed and Glamour Capital of the World; we learned that 10-gallon hats cover more than your head at a Dallas strip joint, and also found out what happens if you fall asleep in the middle of a stripper's routine (you get a spiked heel upside the head).

We saw majesty, weirdness and vice, and, in awe and wonder, soaked it all in. But the defining moment came on the morning of Nov. 1, at 6:15. We stood at Mather Point—on the edge of the Grand Canyon, our breath forming small clouds—to watch the sun rise. I am embarrassed now to read the journal I kept, an 18-year-old wannabe F. Scott Fitzgerald trying to describe this powerful and moving experience with such WRITING as "the Canyon is inspiration to life, to being alive and willing to complete yourself as a human being," and, "I have found my message through the Canyon." The message, despite my clumsy prose then, was that, yes, yes, yes, I would become a writer. It was a rare moment, one the psychologists call a peak experience,

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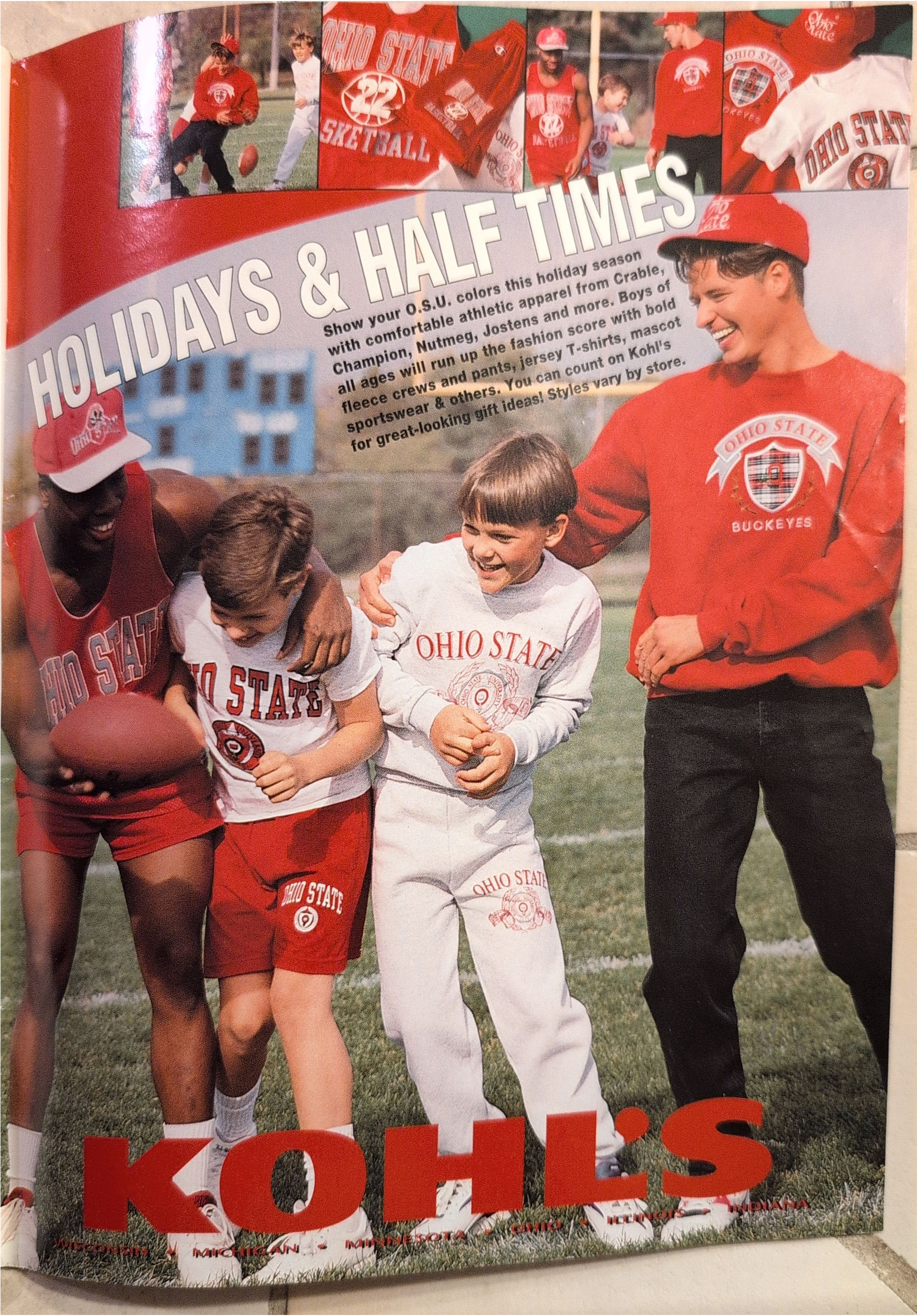
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